THE EXAMINER.

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THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. POPE.

No. 470.

SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF THE GOOD OLD TIMES

BEFORE THE FRENCH REVOLUTION, WHEN KINGS AND PRIESTS DID WHAT THEY PLEASED, BY THE GRACE OF GOD.

"Sweet are the uses of Legitimacy."

THE following particulars are taken from a work in French, the title of which we dare not give. The subject is the pretensions of Louis XVIII. to the throne of France, on the ground of his own merits or those of his ancestors, which are here very scurvily treated as they ought to be. As it is the fashion for some persons to say, and for others to believe, that all crimes and sufferings began with the French Revolution, that till that period there were neither wars, murders, treasons, nor "sudden death;" neither slavery nor tyranny, neither want nor woe, folly or madness in the world; that the French Revolution was a wanton, deliberate, and villainous plot to wake the world out of "that sweet sleep" which it had enjoyed for three thousand years, by thrusting the torch of modern philosophy in its eyes; and that the object of "the late arduous struggle" was not at all to restore "the right divine of kings to govern wrong," but, on the contrary, to bring back the blessings of peace, plenty, liberty, loyalty, religion, morality, and social order, which had always accompanied the undisputed exercise and tacit acknowledgement of the said Divine Right, it may not be amiss to cast a *coup-d'œil* on the history of the French Monarchy, before it was rudely stopped in its "primrose path of dalliance" with the people, and had its mild paternal claims to treat thirty millions of men as its property cut shorter by the head. This right is undoubted in its origin, they tell us: it comes immediately from God, says the author of the *Lay Sermon*. It is arbitrary and absolute, but beneficial in its exercise; it has a right theoretically to inflict wrong, but practically it never does so, says the author of *Wat Tyler*. Kings, by the modern revived theory of Legitimacy, have a right, like God, to do what they will, but then they only will to do what they ought: their absolute power is under the absolute direction of equal wisdom and benevolence. They have a right to usurp one another's thrones; but then of course they never do. They have a right to conquer other nations; but then they were never known to do so. They may pillage, massacre, burn, torture, imprison, oppress, starve their own subjects with impunity, and without remorse; but then they never exercise this royal prerogative. They might put an end to the species to-morrow; but then they are kind enough to let it go on, at least for the pleasure of reigning over it. They have in short *plein droit*, *carte blanche*, to kill and slay, to sack cities, to lay waste provinces, to persecute individuals, to nourish superstition, to gorge their favourites with the fat of the soil, to put little children and old men to the sword, to buy and sell mankind as the property of crowned heads, and hunt the human species as we hunt deer or foxes; but they never do any of these things, they never exercise any of these precious, enviable privileges. The pride of birth, the insolence of power, is softened, and has its rankling poison neutralised in "the milk of human kindness." They have a giant's strength, but they use it like a child. They have the power, but with the power they have the munificence of Gods, and rule over this nether world like so many sainted deputies of Providence. Who but must weep to think that such a happy state of things should ever be disturbed! Who, but must rejoice to see it restored! Let us look at history.

Hugh Capet, in the year 996, succeeded as mayor of the palace, in seizing on the crown of France. This usurper caused Lothaire and Louis V., the two last kings of the Carlovingian race, to be poisoned.—The right claimed by the Bourbons to reign over France in perpetuity, seems therefore to be founded not in the grace of God, but in rebellion and regicide.

After these two poisonings, the only remaining pretender to the throne by collateral succession was Charles of Lorraine, son of Louis the Fourth, brother to Lothaire, and uncle of Louis the Fifth. Capet besieged Charles in Laon. The perfidious Ancelin, the bishop, had him delivered up with his wife and children. Capet took him with his whole family to Orleans, and there threw them into prison. This unfortunate descendant of emperors and kings lived there many years, he and all his family died in the same prison. Capet was not a man to leave a single branch of the race of Charlemagne, who might one day appear to call his Divine Right to the throne in question. How happy was it for kings, when not being accountable to the people for what they did, they could kill one another off incessantly and with impunity! The reigns of the second branch of the Capets were all dreadfully despotic, with the exception of those of Charles V., Louis XII., and Henry IV.

We find at the outset the excessive dissipation, the atrocious actions, and the inflexible cruelty of Philip-le-Bel, a prince without faith, never satisfied with power nor money, vindictive and bloody, and who violated all the rights of the nation and of individuals, and would have produced a general rebellion against him, had it not been for his death, which happened in 1314. Posterity will always remember with horror the massacre of six thousand Templars in one day, and the unjust division of all their property between the King, the Pope, and the Order of Malta. His son, Louis X., during his short reign, shewed himself the inheritor of his father's avarice. He sacrificed every thing to this passion, and made a common traffic of justice. Nothing could excuse the cold barbarity with which he caused the ignominious death of Enguerrand de Marigny. This "Image of the Divinity" died in 1316.

Philip the Long did not abandon the arbitrary system

of his predecessors; that is, he asserted "his right divine to govern wrong" to the letter, by prostituting the magistracy, continuing the sale of pardons, and levying contributions by his sole authority. This at last threatened to produce an almost general defection; for the fine theory of legitimacy, even in those days, could not altogether stifle the common feelings of humanity, when outraged by an unusual stretch of mild paternal sway.

Charles le Bel imitated his father and his brothers in trampling on his people, and perished after a reign of four years, lamented by no one. "Providence," says Mezeray, "would not permit the posterity of him who had harassed France by exactions and violences unheard of till his time, to live the common age of man." Thus far Mezeray. The horrible punishment of Walter and Philip de Lannoy will for ever dishonour the memory of this Prince; for after having them mutilated by the executioner, they were burnt alive. We would recommend it to Mr. Coleridge to write an article in the *Courier* to prove that being burnt alive is a good thing, and that the objection which we feel to these sort of barbarous punishments, in reading the history of the good old times, is nothing but the cant of Presbyterians and of modern philosophy.

Philip VI. who died in 1350, ungrateful, avaricious, violent, and despotic, combined all the vices of the most odious of his predecessors. We find in his disastrous reign the assassination of fourteen Breton and Norman Gentlemen, who had come to Paris by the invitation of the King, on the public faith, and were notwithstanding beheaded without any form of justice.

These were "the gentlemen and men of honour." They have not degenerated much in our times. The punishment of the Count d'Eu, executed without judgment or process, the confiscation of his goods, shared among the favourites of the King, the detention of the King of Navarre, and the massacre of his faithful adherents, are stains upon the history of John II., who covered France with misery and shame. He commenced his reign by an iniquitous and barbarous act. He caused to be hung * one day, and executed the next, during the night, Raoul de Nesle, Constable of France, who was lately returned from the prisons of England. It is necessary to add to all these massacres, those of the two brothers Harcourt, of the Lord of Maubuet, and of Colinet Doublet, whose heads were chopped off without any form of trial. This "Image of the Divinity" died in 1364. The last six Kings here mentioned did not altogether reign so long as George III.

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Charles V. passes for one of "the best of Kings." He was so. He was also called *the Wise*, because his father was a fool, and his son a madman. Take the following as an example of pure legitimacy, in its most favourable point of view:—The town of Montpellier complained (what a piece of insolence!) that the Officers of the King infringed their rights and privileges: as no redress was afforded to their grievances, the people exasperated rose in rebellion, and twenty-four of the King's Officers were killed. Well. Charles sent the Duke of Berri there with an army. At his approach, the inhabitants and Magistrates presented themselves before him, with ropes round their necks, their clothes rent, with the keys of the city gates, followed by the priests and clergy with the cross, dissolved in tears, and crying *misericordia!* In the midst of this deplorable scene, the Duke passed through the gates which were left open, found the rest of the people on their knees in the streets; men, women, children, the old and the young, all repeating the heart-rending cry, *misericordia, misericordia!*—a detail which cannot be read in the history, without drawing tears of pity. But the Duke, being one of a mild paternal race, saw the actual scene without being in the least moved: he had a scaffold raised on the spot, and pronounced a sentence by which six hundred of the inhabitants, taken discretionally among the people, were condemned to die; to wit, two hundred to be beheaded, two hundred to be hanged, two hundred to be burnt, their children declared infamous, and consigned to perpetual slavery, and their goods confiscated. This Duke of Berri was a very legitimate personage. The name still remains. Once more, how pleasant it is to read of these good old times of religion, morality, and social order! What a pleasing fervour it excites in the brain, what a zealous wish to realise the tortures of these oppressors of former times by making them change places with their victims! If all history is a mere fiction, if, as the poet Coleridge insists, all these oppressions were merely *imaginary*, then there could be no harm done by their retaliation, and we suppose that even the stripling band of the *Wat Tyler*, in his most unmitigated rage against the atrocities of kings, priests, and nobles, never wished for any thing more than this. As it used to be said to certain political grumblers, that if they did not like the country, they had better leave it, so we could almost find in our hearts to wish that Mr. Southey, Mr. Coleridge, Mr. Wordsworth, Dr. Stoddart, and some others, who affect to hold the present civilized age in such horror, had lived in a more barbarous one. Mr. Southey would thus have escaped from the dread of Joseph Fox and Joseph Lancaster, Mr. Coleridge would not have been shocked by a Reading Public, Mr. Wordsworth would not have been at a loss to know which was the worst character, the Editor of the *Edinburgh Review*, Robespierre, or Bonaparte; Dr. Stoddart would not have been turned out of the *Times* for being too much of a gentleman and a scholar, nor have sent Mr. Cobbett out of the country by the force of his style and an Exchequer process; but then these gentlemen might have been citizens of Montpellier, and in the number of the 600 who were beheaded, hanged, or burned to death, for complaining of the King's officers. Governments, like poet-laureates, certainly "grow *milder*" as they grow older. Our Government, the other day, instead of six hundred citizens, taken at a venture from the wards of Cripplegate or Farringdon-without, only suspended Cashman and the Habeas Corpus.

The reign of Charles VI. (called *Le Bien Aime*) was signalised by madness, avarice, ambition, and ferocity. The kingdom was for forty years a prey to the most frightful disorders. In his reign commenced the horrible practice of judging by commissaries, satellites of despotism, who never found any one innocent that the ministers accused. He engaged, against the opinion of his council, in a war with Flanders; and when he took any towns, he

* This must be an *Irishism*, unless it was a half-hanging.

beheaded the governors. He had a brave man hanged whom the Flemings had at their head. He also hanged up before the gates of his palace three hundred of the principal inhabitants of Paris, Rouen, and Orleans, who had ventured to remonstrate against certain taxes.

Charles VII. had Alexander d'Orleans assassinated for speaking ill of him and his amours. He suffered Gilles de Retz, Marechal of France, accused of witchcraft, and a great number of his domestics, to be burnt alive. Mr. Coleridge wishes to revive a belief in witches and witchcraft, because he thinks the getting rid of that superstition is too great honour to this enlightened age. We suppose he would also recommend the burning of them alive, as the discontinuance of that laudable practice might prove too much for our progress in civilization and humanity. Charles VII. of whom we were speaking, suffered Joan of Arc, the heroine of Orleans and of Mr. Southey, to whom he owed the preservation of his crown, to perish in the flames, from pure cowardice. Charles VII. was apprised that his son intended to poison him; to prevent which, he famished himself to death. "Oh, the good old times!" still say we, when there was no talk of Revolution or Reform, and kings were not in fear of being cashiered by the people, but poisoned by their sons and successors—such was the excess of religion, morality, and social order.

We shall conclude this retrospective sketch of Legitimacy and mild paternal sway in our next.

MR. COLERIDGE AND MR. SOUTHEY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir,—With every liberal mind, a conscientious attachment to *principle* is still respectable, even although associated with error: with an *illiberal* mind, differences of opinion in politics and religion are objects of malevolent dislike and calumnious reproach; but the worst sort of illiberality is that which, with broad unblushing effrontery, imputes to the worst motives those very principles which the revilers, before their new illumination, themselves professed and propagated. It is amusing to observe the bustle of alarm which Mr. W. Smith's remarks on the Renegades of the present free and happy era have excited among them. They are all bristling like wasps (keen for revenge), and smarting and agonizing at every pore! The *Courier* has put forth a defence of this worst and basest sort of illiberality; which is, we are told, only the natural result of an honest conversion, looking back with abhorrence on former mischievous delusions; and any fair allowance for similar errors, supposing them to be errors, in others, any feeling of candour or charity or compassion or respect, is compared, with equal elegance and justice, to the sympathy which a reformed rake might be required to feel for the dicers and harlot-mongers with whom he once consorted. Admirable reasoner! So, Sir, the debauchee, who games and haunts the brothel, (if we may borrow the *Courier's* delicate flowers of style) really imagines that he is promoting the cause of human improvement in freedom and knowledge! or he who resists tyranny with Hampden, or who worships the One God and Father with the Christian philosopher Locke, is conscious of being one of the vilest of reprobates! Either, Sir, the man who writes thus, must confess that he himself never had any principles whatever, and, sensible of his own former bad motives, imputes them to all who now think as he once professed to think, or he must own himself a base and shameless libeller of honest men. Whoever this Defender of Mr. Southey may be, he is evidently sore on the subject, from an alarmed fellow-feeling and a wounded vanity. *Proximus ardet Ucalegon.* This hack writer of the *Courier* has a spell upon him, which denies him the happy power of invisibility. From the forced and quaint images, the vile *puns*, the uncouth and floundering attempts at humour, the bloatedness of the eloquence, and the slang of the blackguardism, we cannot be mistaken in the writer of this effusion of disinterested generosity. This sympathy is natural. The author of "The *Conciones ad Populum*," and the author of "The *Wat Tyler*," are sworn brothers in the same cause of righteous apostacy. They both, with meanness and insolence, revile men of the soundest patriotic views, the clearest intentions, and the most enlightened constitutional knowledge; they both raise the old and execrable cry of "Church and King;" they both echo the phrases of "the swinish multitude" and "the enemies of the Church; they both would tie down the reason and consciences of men with the rusty fetters of the dark ages of superstition; they both set the brand of disaffection on all without the pale of political theology; and both would hunt the Dissenters out of the land, and set a Unitarian in the pillory. Here is then a sufficient affinity of sentiment to account for the appearance of Mr. Coleridge in the character of Pythias, without resorting to the motives of real admiration, of private gratitude, or the recollections of long friendship. How far *these* had influence, I may perhaps show.

The memory of great metaphysicians may be treacherous, like that of common men. The author of "*The Friend*" is troubled at times and seasons with a treacherous memory: but perhaps he *may* remember a visit to Bristol. He *may* remember (I allude to no confidential whisperings—no unguarded private moments—but to facts of open and ostentatious notoriety): he *may* remember *publicly*, before several strangers, and in the midst of a public library, turning into the most merciless ridicule "The dear Friend" whom he now calls Southey the philologist—Southey the historian—Southey the poet of the *Thalaba*, the *Madoc*, and the *Roderic!* Mr. Coleridge recited an Ode of his dear Friend, in the hearing of these persons, with a tone and manner of the most contemptuous burlesque, and accused him of having stolen from Wordsworth images which he knew not how to use. Does Mr. Coleridge forget this? Does he remember, that he also took down "The *Joan of Arc*," and recited in the same ridiculous tone (I do not mean his *usual* tone, but one which he *meant* should be ridiculous) more than a page of the poem, with the ironical comment,—"*This*, Gentlemen, is *poetry!*" Does he remember that he then recited, by way of contrast, some forty lines of his own contribution to the same poem, in his *usual* bombastic manner; and that after this disgusting display of egotism and malignity, he observed, "Poor fellow, he *may* be a Reviewer, but Heaven bless the man if he thinks himself a Poet?"

Mr. W. Smith will perhaps oblige the author of "*The Friend*," by returning to him the quotation from Horace, after filling up the blanks:—

Absentem qui rodit amicum,
Qui non defendit alio culpente: *solutos*
Qui captat risus hominum, famamque dicacis,
hic NIGER est: hunc tu, Romane, caveto!

You will perceive, Sir, that I do not speak of the author of the *Watchman*, or of the *Ode to the departing Year*, or of the *Ode to Sara*, or of the *Sonnet to Dr. Priestley*, or of the *Religious Musings*: these are only the settings of the gem, not the gem itself: I speak of "The Man."

VINDEX.

Bristol, March 20.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir,—What a lucky thing for the world, as well as for our two great Church and State Poets themselves, that

they were not obliged to *subscribe* the articles of their *political* faith at the age of eighteen! To be sure, the opinions they professed at this immature period of life are not quite so *lucrative* (as said of yore, Pope Leo) as some others, certainly not less problematical: but who knows what impression so solemn and deliberate an engagement might have made on minds so singularly pure and saintly as theirs seem to have been in after years, upon their own shewing? *Three* to *one*, it had been their creed for life. Alack the day for true religion!—Your's, TE TACE.

PROCEEDINGS AT CAMBRIDGE.

The Readers of the *Examiner* have doubtless heard, by this time, of the unexampled proceedings which have made so much noise in the University of Cambridge. A Literary Society, comprising amongst its members ninety or an hundred of the resident scholars and students of that institution, who met weekly for the purpose of cultivating the art of public speaking, has been peremptorily dissolved by the authority of the Rev. the Vice-Chancellor. It is fit that the name of this person should be known. We understand that he is a Doctor James Wood, Master of St. John's College; and compiler, if we are rightly informed, of some very bad mathematical works. With these, however, or any other matters respecting the regular studies of the place, we have at present no concern. But, in the transaction we have just detailed, we feel a degree of painful interest, in which every Englishman must deeply participate. When we speak of an Englishman, we employ the term in a sense which may not be familiar to Dr. Wood and his loyal associates (*their* names are not worth recording) in the University of Cambridge. We mean to speak of those inheritors of the land and language of Hampden and Milton, who share likewise in the inheritance of a spirit not unworthy of either. An Englishman after our definition of the name, is not one who has passed a youth of mental toil without mental improvement, forging those fetters for his own mind, which it is the only business of a slothful manhood to rivet on the salient spirit of others. An Englishman is not one who has not a single notion or feeling beyond the narrow sphere of every-day pettiness and unmeaning routine. He is not one who thinks that portion of a youthful scholar and gentleman's life mis-spent, which is devoted to the pleasures of pure taste, or the exercise of manly discussion. He is one who knows how the ardent generosity of a youthful mind may be trained into a perception and capacity of all that is great and good, both in action and sentiment; and who, for the sake of his country, would desire that the minds of her youth, her future Alfreds and Sidneys and Russells and Bacons and Shakspeares, should be so trained and nurtured.

To such an one, who can feel all that is glorious in the past and anxious in the future, we have not said too much in asserting, that the suppression of the Cambridge Debating Society will be a subject of very melancholy speculation. It is a bad sign of these Anti-jacobin times, when a set of young men of liberal minds, and (we are bound to suppose) of liberal education, are to be told, by a person from whose authority there is no appeal, that literary pursuits make no part of their business; and that they are unfit to enquire, think, and reason on the momentous events which are passing in the world. That it is unsafe to allow them the liberty of discussing, like gentlemen of education and good sense, the public affairs connected with the present history of their own free country. It will be necessary to remind our Readers, that we are not speaking of Students of Salamanca, under the happy reign of Ferdinand; but that this country which we have mentioned is Great Britain, and these young men, Members of the University of Cambridge!

Our Readers are not to imagine that the institution and meetings of this Society were an innovation opposed to the ancient statutes and discipline of the University. On the contrary, this Society, or others of precisely the same nature, have been tolerated and perhaps approved of for very many years, by former Vice-Chancellors, who may have wisely thought that the exercise of public speaking, and even the free discussion of public affairs, were no bad subsidiaries to the education of a body of young Englishmen, many of whom, forming a part of the aristocracy of rank, and still more of the aristocracy of talent and learning, would, at perhaps no distant period, be required to know and treat of those matters, with which they would thus gain an early familiarity. They may have thought, that for young men thus to prove and practice their powers of language—and, what is intimately allied with it, their habits and combinations of thought and reasoning, before they entered on the practice of the Bar, the Senate, or the Pulpit, was, at least, a harmless occupation of two or three hours in a week, even if it were not considered, in many cases, as a necessary exercise. So, we are very sure, would any Instructors of youth have thought, who possessed, in the lowest degree, the requisite qualification of liberal and informed understandings. And so even Dr. James Wood appears to have thought for more than five out of twelve months of his official dignity. For, from his election to the Vice-Chancellor's Chair, which, we understand, took place in the beginning of November, this vigilant censor of the manners of the University never discovered any cause to interfere with the Society, until it's weekly meeting on the afternoon of Monday, the 21th of March; when, accompanied by some inferior University Officers (who, acting under his commands, have of course no claims on the gratitude of the government or the University for their services); he proceeded to the house where the Society met, and, as we have already stated, dispersed the assembly, and denounced his Academical anathema against any future meetings of the same kind.

On looking at the date of this notable transaction, the fair conclusion seems to be, that this Reverend Gentleman's vigilance had been excited by the recent blasts of the Ministerial trumpet of alarm; and ambitious, perhaps, of rivalling the well-earned fame of Mr. Justice Graham, he set himself on the discovery of a seditious conspiracy within his own jurisdiction. The Debating Club was a tempting subject for his magisterial powers to employ themselves on: and, thanks to the temperance and good sense of its members, who, whilst they doubtless felt that they were Englishmen and Gentlemen, never lost sight of the obedience which, as Members of the University, they owed to their Academical Superior, whoever he might be; the experiment succeeded to the utmost of his wishes, and Dr. Wood may perhaps look forward to the reward of his liberal zeal, if not in the approving voices of the University which he governs, in those golden gleams of courtly sunshine, which are sometimes known to visit the cloisters of academical retirement.

—— "Bibat vernum contracta cuticula solem."

For ourselves, we write neither for Courts nor Universities; but with the most unfeigned contempt and disgust for the contemptible and disgusting conduct of certain members of each, we solemnly and honestly aver, that every syllable we have written on this subject, has been dictated by the deepest attachment to the real interest and honour of both. We would see our Universities flourishing, as nothing but the culpable stupidity or perverseness of those whose duty it is to conduct them, can prevent their flourishing. We would not see their rational and indispensible discipline relaxed, or the severity of their studies frittered away. We do not want to see young men encouraged in the idle notion, that

—— "ingenium et rerum prudentia velox
Ante pilos venit;"—

But when we have seen obstacles thrown in the way of the mental exertion and manly feeling of a large body of British youth; and this, too, in the very place where additional impulse ought to be given to both, and by the very persons whose solemn duty it is to communicate it,—when we have heard them told, that they, who speak the language which Milton spoke, and walk in the groves amidst which he wandered, are not fit to think and speak on the affairs which interest every man who is capable of thinking or speaking to any purpose,—we should have done violence to our own feelings if we had written less, or less warmly, on the occasion. R.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, MARCH 31.—Yesterday the King heard mass in his apartments. The same day, being Palm Sunday, all the churches of Paris were so filled as hardly to be able to contain the pious crowds who repaired to them.

Saturday the Tribunal of Police fined a great number of tradesmen of the Palais Royal, La rue St. Honore, and other parts, for having their shops half open last Sunday.

GERMANY.

VIENNA, MARCH 14.—According to a notification of the Government of Milan, the Emperor of Austria has signified his desire, that the Jews shall not be compelled or seduced to become Christians by severe laws against them. His Majesty has extended, in this respect, the liberal principles which are acted upon towards the Jews throughout the Austrian States.

SWEDEN.

STOCKHOLM, MARCH 18.—Alarming reports, of a political nature, have prevailed, to which little attention was paid, and which, in fact, did not produce any consequences. Something has taken place which has made more impression. One Lindkorn, a publican, denounced, on the 13th, certain seditious language which he had overheard. This language, of which the object was no less than a total subversion of the present order of the Government, immediately gave rise to the strictest investigation, and appeared sufficiently important to induce all the high Colleges (or public Boards), and Deputations of the armed force, the Nobility, the Citizens of Stockholm, and the Peasants, to wait on the Crown Prince, and assure him of their fidelity and attachment.

One of the most remarkable speeches of his Royal Highness, is that to the Deputation of the Citizens, of which the following are passages:—

"For some months loose reports have been circulated in the country. Sometimes they said the King was dead, then my son was dying, then my life was in danger. This was done to alarm the country. Some latter denunciations have attracted the attention of the Police, and of the Government. Judicial enquiries are instituted, and the criminals, or the false informers, will be punished. I would forgive the authors of these reports, if they only aimed at my life; but they seek to overturn your liberty, your Constitution, your national honour; in short, every thing that is most sacred to the honest citizen. They have ventured to mix the names of a family, which you have excluded from the Throne. You know yourselves, Gentlemen, that I did not cause their fate.

"When in the distressed state to which a series of misfortunes had reduced you, you cast your eyes on such Princes as were known by the services they had done their country, and your choice was made of me, I resolved to accept it. The very idea of the dangers that surrounded you, made me feel myself greater and capable of the mightiest plans to merit your confidence. For you I consented to renounce the pleasures and tranquillity of private life to which I had destined the rest of my days. I gave myself wholly up to a people once so renowned, then so unhappy. I came among you and brought as a title and pledge, my sword and my deeds; if I could have brought you a series of ancestors from the time of Charles Martel, I would have wished it only on your account; for myself I am equally proud of the services I have done, and of the glory which has raised me. These pretensions are still increased by the King's adoption, and the unanimous choice of a free people.

"On these I found my rights, and as long as honour and justice are not banished from this earth, those rights must be more legal and sacred than if I descended from Odin. History shews that no Prince ever mounted a throne except by the choice of the people, or by conquest. I did not open a way to the Swedish succession by arms. The free choice of the nation called me, and this is the right on which I lean. Remember our condition at my arrival, and see what we are now.

"There are," says his Royal Highness, "ill-disposed men in all countries, but in Sweden their number is so small that no extraordinary measures are necessary to repress them.

"The interior peace of the country is undisturbed; from without there is nothing to fear; we do not meddle with the concerns of other countries, and am certain that they will not meddle with ours. Your rights are therefore secured within and without, and every thing announces that we shall not for a long time be obliged to defend them; but should the honour of the nation require it, I will go at the head of a faithful, tried, and disciplined army, supported by the will of the King and the people, and accompanied by the omens of victory, to meet the enemy, and shed all my blood in the defence of the country. I cannot express myself as I could wish in the Swedish language; but my son speaks it for me; he is educated among you; on him your hopes must repose; but I speak the language of honour and freedom, and every Swede who truly loves his country understands me."—*Hamburgh Corres. March 28.*

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

ASSIZES.

SURREY.—*E. Cook* was indicted for uttering forged Bank-notes.—Mr. GURNEY observed, that the prisoner was a wholesale dealer between the manufacturers at Birmingham and the utterers. One Carpenter, who was apprehended for uttering, with a view to save himself, disclosed the wholesale dealers, and named Cook. In consequence of this, the Bank furnished a person with marked notes, in order to detect him. He fell into the trap, and the very moment he was dealing forth forged notes the Officers seized him.—These facts being proved, the Jury found him—Guilty.

B. Pritchard, the keeper of the public-house where the prisoner lodged, was convicted of having forged notes in his possession. It appearing that the last prisoner kept his stock of notes at the house of the prisoner, with his knowledge; on searching the house 150 were found concealed in the privy, which Pritchard admitted he had put there. Guilty—Fourteen years transportation.

NORWICH.—LATON, ESQ. v. BEAUCHAMP, CLERK.—The plaintiff is an Officer in the army, the defendant is the younger son of a Baronet, and lately been admitted to holy orders. The declaration charged the defendant with having had criminal conversation with the plaintiff's wife, whereby his domestic happiness had been destroyed. For this injury he sought to recover damages.—*Mary Matchin*, who had lived in the service of Mr. Laton, deposed, that in the early part of 1815, the defendant had been very frequent in his visits, and more particularly so when Mr. Laton was regularly absent. On one of these mornings, Mrs. Laton had ordered a fire in the drawing-room, saying that she expected Mr. Beauchamp. About twelve Mr. B. came, and he and Mrs. Laton went into the drawing-room. Prior to his arrival, Miss Laton, five years old, had been walking in the garden with her mama, and witness not knowing what had become of Miss Laton, after Mr. B. and Mrs. L. had gone into the drawing-room, went to the breakfast-room in search of her, but found the door fastened; she then said, "Miss Laton, open the door, or I'll tell your mama!" Witness then heard a bustle, which lasted for three or four minutes, before she was admitted, when, to her surprise, Mrs. Laton herself unbolted the door; she then saw the defendant sitting with his face towards the fire, and her mistress, who was usually pale, very red, and her hair, which had been very neatly dressed and curled before Mr. B.'s arrival, much dishevelled; witness immediately retired, saying, she thought Miss Laton had been there, whom she afterwards found had been sent to a neighbouring farm-house. The window-blind had been let down in the breakfast-room, although the aspect was

westerly, and it was in the forenoon. On her going again into the breakfast-room, she looked the defendant in the face, and thought he looked confused. She further stated, that one morning Mr. B. and Mrs. L. were together for at least an hour, after which Mrs. L. came to the pantry-door, and ordered refreshment, when the witness perceived that her mistress's hair was very much tumbled, her face red, and her neck bore the appearance of having been pressed with an arm.—In the material parts of her evidence this witness was corroborated by *R. Jefferies*, who lived as footman at the same time, and who stated that he had seen Mr. B. kiss Mrs. L. behind a glass door on taking his leave. Both the above witnesses stated, that their master had examined them as to the above matters a year or two ago, that they then gave him the same account, but that he had discredited and dismissed them from his service in consequence.

Mr. Serjeant Best denied that the charge of his client having debauched the plaintiff's wife had been substantiated; and even admitting that it had been so, still the most material proof, by way of introduction to a verdict of damages for the loss of a wife's affection, had been entirely omitted. He meant some evidence of the domestic happiness of the parties previous to its interruption by the supposed adultery; which latter he firmly believed had never existed, but that the whole was a story trumped up by the plaintiff, for the double purpose of getting rid of his wife, and of putting money in his own pocket.

Lieutenant Dowling stated, that he had been introduced to Mr. and Mrs. Laton in September, 1816, at Yarmouth; that he had been in the habit of riding out with Mrs. L. at the request of her husband; that on one occasion Mr. L. proposed, that she and the witness should ride 24 miles; and that upon Mrs. L. observing that they should not be able to return that night, Mr. L. said, they might have beds at the Crown Inn, at Haddiscoe, which accordingly they had, and the plaintiff himself paid the bill.—That the plaintiff having afterwards intimated a suspicion that they had slept together, and having opened a letter addressed by Lieut. D. to Mrs. L. the former had written to Mr. L. demanding satisfaction; to which the plaintiff had replied, that he never thought Lieut. D. had acted otherwise than any man would under similar circumstances; and that if in opening a letter directed to his wife he had overstepped the privileges of a husband, he was willing to apologize. This witness also proved an intimate connection between the plaintiff and a woman named Dodson, with whom he would walk in the day time on the sea beach at Yarmouth, sometimes in the sight of his wife, and at other times would request Lieut. D. to ride or walk with Mrs. L. in particular roads and directions, so that she might not catch him with Dodson. The witness had likewise known Mr. L. leave his wife, with whom he was walking on the jetty, to accompany Dodson, who appeared on the sea side. On one occasion, when his wife upbraided him for insulting her by his public intimacy with Dodson, the plaintiff replied in the presence of witness, "D—n you, you —— what business have you to interfere with me. I have been giving you your swing for five years, in the hopes of your running away with some man of fortune; but d—n you, you are too cunning for it; should you do it: I'll drink your health in a bumper," at the same time filling his glass and that of the witness. The plaintiff has also told his wife, in the presence of the witness, that Dodson was a better figure, a finer girl, and a more lady-like woman, than Mrs. L. herself. On another occasion, when Lieut. D. supped at Mr. L.'s lodgings, upon the latter going to bed, Lieut. D. proposed to retire, but was prevented by the plaintiff, who said, "Don't hurry yourself; you may as well set up with Mrs. L. who won't go to bed yet." Lieut. D. having with difficulty prevailed on the plaintiff to accompany Mrs. L. and himself to a ball at Yarmouth, accused the plaintiff with neglect towards his wife; to which he replied, that he hated dancing; that he had taken Mrs. L. to a ball at Norwich, given by the Brunswicks, at the Norwich Barracks; that he was to bring her back; but as he would not go after her, she remained all night. Speaking of Dodson, he said to the witness, "If she should be the cause of my getting rid of that d—l, (meaning Mrs. L.) I would give her 50*l.*, and keep her all my life; I had rather keep Dodson and drive a mail-coach, than live on any terms with Mrs. L." The plaintiff also said, at the Officers' mess, on the 10th of November, speaking of his wife, "I wish to God she would run away with some man of fortune, I would recover 10,000*l.* damages, and would keep four of the best horses in Norfolk."

This last speech of the plaintiff's was confirmed by *Mr. Taylor*, a surgeon at Yarmouth.

Mr. Gurney most readily admitted the misconduct which the plaintiff adopted towards his wife, and the indecorous expressions and disregard which he appeared to have made use of. But he dwelt with great force on a most important fact, as it related to the present action, namely, that every act and expression which had been brought forward against him, had been proved to be subsequent to the time when the defendant had completed his dishonour. At the same time Mr. Gurney allowed that he was bound by a regard to his own honour to abstain from making any observations justificatory of the misconduct alleged against the plaintiff. He, however, contended, that the plaintiff was at least entitled to a verdict, leaving the quantum of damages to the Jury.

The Jury, after retiring about ten minutes, gave a verdict for the defendant.

Cornwall.—*R. S. Donnall*, a young man of 26, and a surgeon and apothecary at Falmouth, in July last married the daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Downing, of that place, widow. He now stood charged with the wilful murder of his mother-in-law, on the 3d of November last, by administering arsenic in a cup of cocoa, upon bread and butter, or in some other undiscovered manner.

Mr. G. Abrahams deposed, that about three weeks before the death of Mrs. Downing, the prisoner said, that his mother-in-law *would not live long*, and that then the witness should have some money he had borrowed of him.

Mr. S. Downing, son of the deceased, deposed, that on the 19th of October last, Mrs. Downing went to drink tea with the prisoner; the witness had previously dined with her, and she appeared in good health and spirits. She returned home after supper, and, at about 12 o'clock, she complained of great sickness; she vomited, and was attacked by a violent cramp in her legs. The prisoner attended her, but she did not entirely recover for more than a week. On the 31 of Nov. she was again invited to tea by the prisoner: on this occasion she observed, "You know the last time I was at your house I was taken ill; I hope it will not be so again." The witness dined with her, and she ate heartily: he went to the prisoner's in the evening. The attention of the witness was attracted by seeing the prisoner going round towards Mrs. Downing; in doing which he spilt a part of her son Edward's tea upon her gown: Edward exclaimed, "Donnall! what are you about?" But the prisoner made no answer, and offered the bread and butter to Mrs. Downing, who took a piece of it. Just afterwards the servant-boy called the prisoner out of the room. There was nothing unusual in the prisoner's handing the bread and butter. The witness did not see who handed the cocoa to his mother, but he saw her drinking it: she took a second cup, and, while drinking it, she complained of being sick, and in a few minutes returned home with her son Edward: her expression was, that she felt unwell. While she was in the act of returning, the prisoner came again into the room. Immediately she got home (the two houses joined), she desired that a basin should be brought, and she vomited, observing, that she hoped she should not be as sick as she had been the last time she came from Donnall's. The prisoner and his wife entered soon afterwards, and the deceased was prevailed upon to go up stairs to lie down upon the bed: she complained of great heat. The witness then went out, and returned at about nine o'clock: he found in his mother's house the prisoner, Wm. Downing, and Mr. Jordan. In the course of the evening, the prisoner frequently went up stairs to Mrs. Downing, bringing word only that she was still sick. The witness went to bed about two o'clock, having recommended an emetic an hour before; but the prisoner replied, that gentle means must be used, and that he had given Mrs. Downing something to compose her. When the witness was going to bed, he asked the prisoner whether he should stay any longer? and the answer was, that he should wait half an hour to ascertain the effect of the last pill. The witness entered his mother's room, as he passed the door, and the prisoner went with him: she complained of violent pains in her stomach, and of cramp in her legs; in order to relieve which she wished to leave her bed. The witness then went to bed, and at about four o'clock he was awaked by Mrs. Jordan, who said that her mother was much worse, that Dr. Edwards had been sent for, and was then in the house. The witness dressed himself, and met the prisoner at the outside of the door of the deceased. Being asked why he had called in Dr. Edwards, the prisoner said, that at about three o'clock, he became alarmed by the failing of Mrs. Downing's pulse. The witness found her in a slumbering state, which, the prisoner observed, was a farther cause of fear for her safety. The deceased died about eight o'clock on Monday morning. The prisoner then left the house, and the witness did not see him again until 11 o'clock: when he remarked, that the body would probably swell, that a shell should be prepared, and that it

should be buried without delay: he had already observed a discharge at the nostrils, and the body could not be kept longer than Wednesday. An anonymous letter on the subject of Mrs. D's death was addressed to the Mayor, and the copy he had received the witness put into the hands of the prisoner: while the prisoner was reading it, his hand trembled violently: and before he had finished it, it dropped from his hand upon the floor; he said, "It is a villanous thing, and has been done on purpose to ruin me in the town, and my practice will be broken up in consequence." At about two o'clock on the same day the body was opened: the witness remained down stairs, and the prisoner brought word that the heart and liver were found perfectly sound, though there was an appearance of a little inflammation in the stomach. The deceased was buried on the Saturday following, and the funeral was attended by the prisoner. A Coroner's Jury sat on the body, who gave their verdict that Mrs. Downing died by poison; at which the prisoner did not seem surprised, but merely observed that it was a mistake.

Dr. Richard Edwards stated, that when he was called in, he asked the prisoner some questions respecting Mrs. Downing: the prisoner said that she had an attack of the cholera morbus, and that she had been similarly affected about a fortnight before. The witness went into her room, and found that she required a little rousing before she could answer any questions: she complained of great heat, and her pulse was frequent and fluttering: she had no sickness at that time, but was in very great danger. He understood from the prisoner, that he had given her an opening medicine, an emetic, a saline draught, and some opium. The witness wrote a prescription, with a view to remove something offensive which appeared to be in her stomach or bowels. He had never met with a case of cholera morbus that had produced death in a shorter time than three or four days, and he was of opinion, that that disorder was not the cause of the death of Mrs. Downing. On Thursday, the 7th of November, the witness was requested to go and examine the body, by opening it, having previously heard of the suspicion of poison. He saw the prisoner at the house, and a surgeon of the name of Street. After taking the body out of the shell, the witness perceived that the prisoner was preparing to open the body, but the witness told him that he must have nothing to do with the operation. On opening the stomach the contents were poured into a basin, but no deposit of any thing heavy could be discovered. The stomach was in a state of stellated inflammation, and both the coats of the stomach were softened, as if by the action of some corrosive substance. The basin with the contents of the stomach had been carefully placed on a chair; witness observed aloud, that they must be preserved, and the prisoner must have heard it. They then proceeded to inspect the intestines, which were also inflamed, and the witness felt certain that it could not have been produced, otherwise than by the operation of an active poison. After this investigation, the witness turned round to the basin, and was surprised to find it empty: he asked the prisoner what he had done with the contents of the stomach, and he replied that he had thrown them into the chamber-vase, where was a quantity of water, with which the intestines had been washed. The witness said, that it would give him a great deal more trouble in making experiments to ascertain if any poison were in the stomach. The witness afterwards applied to it various chemical tests, and they indicated the presence of arsenic in a fluid, but he could not detect it in a solid state. He had not the slightest doubt that arsenic was the cause of the death of Mrs. Downing, and he should have been of that opinion had he not analyzed the contents of the stomach.

Mr. John Street, who had ceased to practise for five years, agreed with Dr. Edwards in his account of the appearance of the stomach, &c.

The case for the prosecution being closed, the *Prisoner* in defence read a paper, shortly denying the charge, and expressing his confident reliance on the impartiality of the Court and Jury.

The Prisoner called in defence several Medical Gentlemen from various parts, who had tried many experiments as to the effects of poison on the human frame, and who gave it as their opinion that poison had not caused the death of the deceased, and also that the Prisoner had prescribed in a proper way for her.

Mr. Justice ABBOTT summed up the evidence in a charge which lasted three hours. The Jury retired for a quarter of an hour, and returned a verdict of—*Not Guilty*.—The trial lasted 12 hours.

WRIT OF INQUIRY.—REV. WM. CARNITHEN v. SHERWOOD, NEELY, AND JONES.—A Writ of Inquiry was held this afternoon, at the Castle of Exeter, before R. Barnes, Esq. Under Sheriff for Devon, and a Special Jury, to ascertain the damages in an action brought by the plaintiff against the defendants (who are the publishers of the *Anti-Jacobin Review*), for a libel which appeared in that work in September last; the libel was contained in a poetical effusion relating to the late contested Election for Devon, in which the plaintiff was charged with having promised his vote for E. P. Bastard, Esq. and afterwards voted for Lord Ebrington. Mr. GIFFORD explained the case on the part of the plaintiff, and was replied to by Mr. CASBERD, on the part of the defendants.—After two very eloquent speeches from the Learned Gentlemen, and some judicious remarks by the Under Sheriff, the Jury withdrew, and in about half an hour returned damages for the plaintiff, one hundred pounds and costs.—*Exeter Flying Post.*

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, March 31.

The Royal Assent was declared, by Commission, to the Seditious Assemblies' Prevention Bill, and the Naval Officers' Pay Bill.

The Russian Leather Importation Bill was read a third time, and passed.—Adjourned till the 16th of April.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, March 31.

PAVEMENT OF THE METROPOLIS.

Mr. M. A. TAYLOR descanted on the necessity of this Bill, and said, that his present object was, besides submitting it to a second reading, to move a humble Address to the Regent, praying that he would command that such measures might be taken as might be deemed necessary for defraying the expences of the Parliamentary proceedings occasioned by it.—Agreed to.

CATHOLIC EMANCIPATION.

Mr. PONSONBY said, he had received a letter from his Right Hon. Friend, the Member for Dublin, requesting him to give notice, that he should, on or about the 20th of April, introduce in that House the subject commonly called the Catholic Question.

FORGED NOTES.—MR. BROOKS.

Mr. BROUGHAM presented a Petition from Mr. Brooks, of High-street, Bloomsbury, pawnbroker and silversmith, complaining of having been taken into custody on a charge of felony, because he had kept in his hands a forged Bank of England note, with a view of recovering his loss from the party who paid it him. He had been thus severely treated, torn from his family, and rendered subject to an imputation the most prejudicial to his business, though he had offered to concur with the Bank in any measures for the conviction of the real offender, and though the note had been stamped with the word "forged."

General THORNTON and Mr. CURWEN stated similar cases of great hardship and oppression.

The Petition was ordered to lie on the table.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved, that the House at its rising should adjourn till Monday's se'nnight.

Mr. PONSONBY could not avoid observing, that the House was now separating after the Royal Assent had been given to the last of a series of coercive measures—measures which, it was true, were rendered necessary by *the public distress, which had produced the immediate cause for them*; but Parliament was about to adjourn without having done any thing but enact those coercive measures; he hoped, therefore, that before the House met again, Ministers would have taken some step towards the alleviation of those distresses. He did expect much from the exertions of the Committee that was sitting; and he hoped that, on the return of the House, his Majesty's Ministers, and the Committee together, would be able to state that something had been done.

Mr. CANNING trusted that the Right Hon. Gentleman would not be disappointed concerning the attention which the Committee and Ministers would bestow on the subject: but if the Right Hon. Gentleman laid in his claim for a sudden and complete removal of all the distress of the country, he claimed what it was beyond the reach of Ministers to effect, and expected impossibilities to be performed by human means. In making such a demand on the limited powers of the Committee, *he feared the Right Hon. Gentleman could only be actuated with a view to excite or increase the public discontent.* He was certain there could be no want of attention on the part of the Committee; and he hoped that some plan for practical relief, of a certain extent, might be

found; but he should be sorry to excite such exaggerated expectations as the Right Hon. Gentleman had held out, for the removal of evils which it was beyond the power of human wisdom to prevent, or human legislation to remove.

Mr. PONSONBY expected no complete or sudden removal of the evils alluded to; but hitherto no step had been taken.

Mr. BROUGHAM complained that the Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Canning) had in his usual way not only imputed to his Hon. Friend (Mr. Ponsonby) what he did not say, but motives, by which he never could have been actuated, in saying that the only object of what he had uttered was to excite discontent and disaffection. He put it to the House, whether a more temperate address had ever been made within those walls. For his part, he was not so sanguine on the labours of the Committee as his Hon. Friend; for he well recollected the origin of that Committee, and the manner in which it was composed. He well recollected, that the appointment of the Committee was not conceded as a boon by Ministers, but extorted in consequence of a notice given by an Hon. Friend of his, that such a Committee would be moved for. He must say one word, too, on a disappointment of another kind, which he foresaw must occur. After all the pains that had been taken to prevent the people of Westminster from meeting, if the House expected no meetings would take place within a mile, they would be grievously disappointed. He would explain this:—in that hurry in which all dignity of proceeding, all due deliberation, and all forms had been set at nought, it had entirely escaped Ministers, that, besides the flaws in the clause respecting Westminster, there were two others that rendered the Bill altogether nugatory. The first was, that a Meeting might be held in Palace-yard or elsewhere, for the purpose of addressing the Prince Regent, or the Crown, for the removal of Ministers; because, by the clause in the Bill, the Meetings were prohibited from considering the alteration of any thing in Church or State; but the removal of his Majesty's Ministers was not any alteration in Church or State. In the next place, the object of the Bill was to protect Parliament from the vicinity of the Westminster Meetings, and they were not to be held within a mile of Westminster-hall; but there was nothing to prevent a Meeting in the Hall itself; and one of the largest Meetings he ever knew had been held within that building; so that all the Citizens of Westminster might, for the consideration of any subject whatever, meet in Westminster-Hall, within a pistol-shot of Parliament. He trusted, therefore, that no disappointment would be experienced, no alarm excited, and no argument be adduced for the enactment of farther coercive measures, if a Meeting should be held in Westminster-Hall, the most numerous and best attended of any. He concurred with his Hon. Friend in the hope that something would be effected during the recess towards alleviating the distress that so loudly demanded attention; and he hoped, also, that during the adjournment no steps would be taken by Ministers touching the affairs of South America, or any thing done to impede the independence of those Colonies—an object, the accomplishment of which every liberal mind must so ardently desire.

Mr. B. BATHURST stated, that the Bill did not apply to Meetings held while Parliament was not sitting: that he believed the Courts of Justice had the power of preventing Meetings in Westminster-Hall during the time they were employed there; and that, at all events, Mr. Fox had on one occasion submitted to their authority on such an occasion. Notwithstanding the defects of the Bill, which were no secret to Ministers, he deemed it a salutary measure. It was true, that the prevailing distress was the cause of the measure, for that distress had laid the people open to the arts of designing men. It was impossible to hope that any measures could entirely remove that distress; but every exertion would be made with the hope of alleviating it.

Mr. CURWEN said, that the country did expect much from the labours of the Committee; and nothing could be more improper than the temper and tone of the Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Canning) on this occasion. He hoped something would be done, at least, to excite the hopes of the people, and to retrieve the character of the House; the loss of which, by improper pensions and jobs, had been immense.

Sir J. NEWPORT said, if ever the people deserved an alleviation of their sufferings, it was at this moment. Till that alleviation was effected, the least Ministers could do was to hold out an expectation that something would be effected by their efforts. Certain it was, that the distress of the nation would not be relieved by high-sounding words or coercive measures.

MARYLEBONE CHURCH.—POOR LAWS.

Mr. BENNETT asked if there was any truth in the report that Maryle-bone Church, which stood on the property of the Duke of Portland, was to be made over to Government, and Crown property given to the Duke elsewhere in exchange? The office of sexton in that church was worth 1000*l.* per annum; that of clerk 1000*l.*; and there were other offices in proportion; all which influence was to be added to the Crown.—He then spoke of the state of the measures respecting the Poor Laws.

Mr. CALCRAFT did not expect that much would be done respecting the poor, when the Finance Committee had not yet complied with the recommendation from the Throne, that the state of the Finances should be taken into early and serious consideration. Parliament had sat two months, and nothing had been done.

Lord BINNING declared, that the Committee had laboured most assiduously, and had already produced two reports.

Mr. F. LEWIS said, the Committee had a most difficult subject before them. The Committee would act negligently if they made a Report on any particular topic, when they were to embrace the whole range of the Poor Laws. They had enquired into the Poor Laws as a general subject, and rather as relating to the country in its ordinary than in its present extraordinary state. He believed it beyond all human power to relieve distress so extensive as the present; and it was better to consider the Poor Laws by themselves, to take a view of their general operation, than to incumber them with the view of temporary difficulties.

Mr. BROUGHAM mentioned his intention to propose some regulations, on a future occasion, respecting the patronage of Maryle-bone parish or parishes.—Adjourned till Monday week.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES ENLARGED.

J. Lloyd, Tring, Herts, surgeon, from April 5 to April 15.
P. R. Lewis and J. F. Morris, St. Martin's-lane, warehousemen, from April 8 to April 26.
W. Sykes, Milk-street, silk-manufacturer, from April 5 to April 15.

BANKRUPTS.

W. Farrant, Strand, tailor. Attorney, Mr. Lowden, Clement's-inn.
W. Piper, Hammersmith, barge-builder. Attorney, Mr. Upstone, Charles-street, Middlesex Hospital.
W. L. Levin, Jewin-street, merchant. Attornies, Messrs. Courteen and Robinson, Walbrook.
T. Williams, Chaines, Worcestershire, victualler. Attornies, Messrs. Price and Williams, Lincoln's-inn.
R. Brownson, Manchester, calico-manufacturer. Attorney, Mr. Barber, Fetter-lane.
F. Sadler, Wilmslow, Cheshire, calico-manufacturer. Attornies, Messrs. Hurd and Johnson, Temple.
T. Hall and J. Malkin, Ashborne, Derbyshire, coach-makers. Attorney, Mr. Allen, Carlisle-street, Soho.
W. Cooper, Shipdham, Norfolk, shopkeeper. Attorney, Mr. Redit, King's-road, Bedford-row.
R. Lovegrove, Arborfield, Berks, farmer. Attorney, Mr. Newbery, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields.
E. and W. Burrows, Leeds, corn-millers. Attorney, Mr. Lake, Dowgate-hill.
G. Shaw, Pendleton, Manchester, cotton-merchant. Attornies, Messrs. Hurd and Co. Temple.
J. J. Trathan, Falmouth, stationer. Attorney, Mr. Follett, Temple.
H. C. Wright, Portsea, merchant. Attorney, Mr. Williams, Red Lion-square.
D. Smith, jun. and J. Hampshire, Kirkburton, Yorkshire, scribbling-millers. Attorney, Mr. Strangeways, Fenchurch-street.
T. J. Sandilands, Twyning, Gloucestershire, money-scrivener. Attorney, Mr. Watts, Symond's-inn.
J. Griffith, Llandwrog, Carnarvonshire, woollen-manufacturer. Attornies, Messrs. Edmunds and Jeyes, Chancery-lane.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

E. Cohen, City of London, merchant.

BANKRUPTS.

M. and S. Tarn, Dover-street, Piccadilly, milliners. Attornies, Messrs. Leigh, Mason, and Housman, New Bridge-street.
A. R. Uhr, Great Prescot-street, Goodman's-fields, merchant. Attorney, Mr. Wilson, Staple-inn.
W. Love, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, shopkeeper. Attorney, Mr. Walker, Lincoln's-inn.
J. Bell, Baildon, Yorkshire, worsted-stuff-manufacturer. Attorney, Mr. Evans, Hatton-garden.

H. Ridley, Ovington, Northumberland, woodmonger. Attorney, Mr. Constable, Symond's-inn.
J. Slack, Salford, Lancashire, printer. Attornies, Messrs. Leigh, Mason, and Housman, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.
W. Clifford, Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, stone-mason. Attornies, Messrs. Leigh and Co. New Bridge-street.
R. Hatfield, Dewsbury, Yorkshire, dealer. Attorney, Mr. Evans, Hatton-garden.
W. Young, Boston, Lincolnshire, victualler. Attornies, Messrs. Lodington and Hall, Temple.
T. Brown, G. Westin, and J. Brown, Muscovy-court, Tower-hill, merchants. Attornies, Messrs. Swain and Co. Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.
G. Thomas, Bristol, turpentine-distiller. Attornies, Messrs. Lamberts, Taylor, and Deane, Gray's-inn-square.
N. Gardner, Shelsley, Worcestershire, farmer. Attornies, Messrs. Lowndes and Co. Red Lion-square.
W. Hamblin, Wootton Underedge, Gloucester-shire, clothier. Attornies, Messrs. Lamberts and Co. Gray's-inn-square.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.
3 per Cent. Consols ..... 73⅛⅛.

The Article on the Encouragement given by the American Congress to HISTORY PAINTING, in our next.
Full Account of the DEATH and FUNERAL of the late Mr. SOUTHEY, next week.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, APRIL 6.

THE most striking intelligence from the Continent, during the past week, is an account of a conspiracy at Stockholm against the life of the CROWN PRINCE; respecting the precise nature of it, the vagueness of the accounts leaves us quite in the dark. It appears that it was deemed of sufficient importance, by the public bodies, to induce them to send deputations to wait upon the PRINCE, to assure him of their unshaken fidelity. It is from his reply to one of these deputations that we can form some guess at the object of the conspiracy. Legitimacy has been at work in favour of the exiled KING. He was a madman;—he ruined his people by projects which he had rashness enough to venture on, but not the courage to carry through; he lost the finest province of Sweden, which ALEXANDER the Liberator is kind enough still to retain; but what is all this, compared with the single all-sufficient fact that he is the Son of a King?—BERNADOTTE, whatever the prejudices which were first entertained against him, however unamiable some points of his conduct may have appeared, is now known to have been called to the throne by the free choice of the Swedish people, on account of his military talents, and still more on account of the singular mildness with which he exercised the most obnoxious power, the power of a conqueror, in the north of Germany. The Swedish people seemed to think, that if a man whose business it was to impose or collect military contributions, and to enforce conscriptions, could make himself not only respected but almost beloved, he must have had some talents for governing. Since the period when he was chosen heir to the throne, during which time he has indeed possessed the whole administrative power of the kingdom, he has secured himself the affection of the Swedes, as all travellers agree, and indeed the most objectionable points in his conduct have been those in which he has preferred the interests of Sweden to his private affections. But he is not the son of a King;—he is an eye-sore in the otherwise perfect work of Legitimacy;—he is the only Monarch on the Continent who rules in consequence of the special interference of the people;—and are the Swedes to remain cursed with a PRINCE of their own choice? They must surely think themselves very miserable. He however meets the question very fairly:—he tells the people, that he is as well satisfied as if he were the descendant of CHARLES MARTEL,—(an obvious libel on LOUIS XVIII.)—he thinks it just as desirable to be chosen by the voice of a nation, though his father was a peasant,—as to be driven with contempt from a throne, on which his great grandfather, in the 29th ascending degree, had been seated by the choice of the same people. Strange as this reasoning appears to some, we are inclined to agree with him.—But there is another subject on which, he says, he is confident—(and it may be right to say so)—on which we should be disposed to hesitate:—he says no interference on the part of Foreign Powers is to be apprehended; but he himself throws a doubt on his own assertion, by talking of the possibility of his putting himself at the head of his army. We do not see how the Chouans and Vendeans of Sweden could entertain any hopes of success, without some assurance of support from their natural allies the Monarchs of Europe, unless the Nobles are jealous of the protection and favour which BERNADOTTE is said to afford to the commonalty.—We hope, after all, for the sake of our own dignity, that it will not be found, that the addresses of the Swedish bodies corporate have originated in some fracture of his ROYAL HIGHNESS's coach window, and that the HICKSES of Stockholm have not induced us to waste our remarks by magnifying the treasonable designs of some interlocutory potatoe. His ROYAL HIGHNESS, indeed, tells us that "no extraordinary measures" will be necessary for his support; which shows us that the plot was much less formidable than the *Spencean* plot in this country; unless we are to imagine,—a supposition not to be named,—that the illegitimate upstart Governor of Sweden is more moderate and less disposed to grasp at unnecessary power than our own virtuous and self-denying administration. The most prevailing rumour in the Hamburgh papers seems to be, that six assassins had introduced themselves into the Palace to murder the PRINCE;—but the timely discovery of their design prevented its accomplishment. This attempt having transpired, the people crowded round the palace and insisted on seeing the PRINCE, and on his presenting himself at a balcony, he was loudly cheered.—Another version is, that a mob surrounded the palace for the purpose of putting him to death; that he presented himself at the balcony and spoke thus:—"Good people, I never solicited the honour of succeeding to the throne of Sweden; I came amongst you through your own deliberate choice; and since the first moment I entered Sweden, I have constantly fulfilled my duties both as a commander and as a coregent. I can now only say, that if you should consider my death an advantage to Sweden, my life is freely at your disposal."—(During this address a solemn silence prevailed; and when it was ended the PRINCE was greeted with loud and repeated acclamations.)

This last is obviously a very improbable story, except with respect to the expressions of the speech, which may

have given rise to all the rest. It is a part of the stage effect of royalty to appear liberal of life. The last King of Sweden vowed to bury himself in the ruins of Stralsund, and was the first to fly from it in a boat.

In France, it appears what the *Courier* calls factious agitation has more than usually prevailed of late; "the squabbles between the Royalists and the Jacobins still continue. The latter have the audacity to wear the violet, the emblem of Bonaparte, thus displaying this affectionate remembrance of his return *two years ago* to his government of a hundred days?"—Strange, this paper seems to think it, that in two years a nation has not forgotten its disgrace and subjection—that they have not forgotten it, though the Allies remain in their fortresses and levy the penalty of their offence against the divine right of Kings and bayonets.—If they were disposed to forget their condition, the following paragraph from the same paper would, we should think, tend to remind them of it:—

"M. Rroust, who is under prosecution for publishing the libellous and seditious pamphlet entitled *Carnot*, pleaded his own cause before the Correctional Tribunal at Paris, on Saturday last. He took that opportunity of repeating in open Court his infamous doctrines, which were nothing short of those of direct Jacobinism. The Counsel for the Crown replied with great spirit, and concluded by demanding that the punishment which he originally prayed for should be quadrupled. M. Roust is therefore *in a fair way of being imprisoned* for life, unless he can pay a fine of 20,000f. after suffering two years' confinement, as part of his punishment."

So much for the paternal government of the Bourbons.—In South America, the resistance to the proffered blessings of Bourbon Government goes on. The population of the independent provinces is generally scattered over a great extent of country, and not very energetic, though sufficiently persevering. These circumstances retard the establishment of liberty; but there is no reason to doubt its ultimate success, as the Guerilla system has been resorted to, which has been found effectual in a less extensive country, and against much more formidable enemies. They have indeed nothing to dread but from our interference, which, in consideration of the former acts of kindness of the Bourbons towards this country, we seem so ready to afford in all cases in which their interests are threatened.

A leading Minister has attributed the improvement in the funds to the Suspension of the *Habeas Corpus* Act; by which it may be presumed we are to understand, that, in the estimation of smiling prosperity, the want of employment, or starvation, of some hundreds of thousands of poor rogues, is of little consequence, if they can be *kept down*. Such a reason for the rise of stocks, out of the mouth of any one but a Minister, might be deemed ironical, or at least a gross libel upon the British community. We do not think so ill of our country, as to attribute the aforesaid rise to any such cause. Probably a few inspired personages about the Bank of England, simply by answering the following queries, might solve the riddle much more satisfactorily:—Have not the Bankers for some time past been willing to advance money at a very low rate, owing to the stagnation of enterprise affording no demand for it? Has not this circumstance induced a known junto, when quite assured that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would manage without a loan, to purchase stock with *borrowed* money; probably securing the lenders by allowing it to stand in their names?—Who have been the *nominal* purchasers?—who the *real*?—And, above all, what description of persons have been the sellers?—Forced to speak out, these oracular gentlemen might answer, that the purchasers are *jobbers*, and the sellers industrious agriculturists, and others, whom the times oblige to have recourse to their capital; in short, that the rise is the new game of a few monied gamblers, who will take great care to back out, and leave the shallow crowd who follow them to endure the consequences of the certain recession of the unnatural tide.

It seems that a great money-monger has expressed himself highly indignant at the clamour against the loan to France, and coupled the word *absurdity* with the name of a highly respectable Nobleman, for hazarding a doubt of its propriety. Why he should do so, we know not; because it is evident, from his own explanation, that he entertained similar doubts *himself*, and waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to be first assured that the proposed advance agreed with the views of Government. Now, if Mr. Baring thought this visit necessary, why are other people to be rated for hesitating as to the decorum of shifting *surplus capital* from its salutary operation on a country in distress? "But," says Mr. Baring, "a very small sum has been sent from this country."—Does the principle, then, depend upon the amount?—We thought the defence assumed a wider basis; namely, the right of a merchant or money-lender to make the most of his capital, without impeding himself by narrow preferences or considerations. If *surplus capital* be useful to a country, the transfer of it to another must be an evil. We are much disposed to deny the benefit of vast disposeable capital in a few hands: but if serviceable, it is either by exciting to exertion, or by raising the price of Stocks; that is to say, by jobbing; which last result, without being connected with the additional employment of a famishing individual, it is fashionable to nick-name Prosperity. After all, it is pleasant to see people wince at the homespun doubts of the vulgar: and, by the bye, a paragraph in the Daily Papers observes, that Mr. Baring has declined all concern in a loan to the *Americans*.

"*Paris, March 27.*

The suppression of the *Mercury* for the luminous boldness with which it treated questions of deep political import, the suppression of the *Journal General de France* for an article from the independent pen of M. d'Argenson, maintaining the rights of Electors, were measures strenuously opposed by M. de Cazes in the Council of State, when these propositions were first submitted for discussion. The temporary suspension of several of the Morning Papers for personalities, more or less obnoxious on the exiled author of *Germanicus*, and a similar repression of party spirit towards Journals which had, with equal indiscretion perhaps, but certainly with more generosity, taken a different view of the question, are alike to be attributed to the more moderate recommendations of the same judicious Statesman.—The agitation which existed some time after the performance of *Germanicus*, has gradually subsided, and the party badges have disappeared. The higher military Authorities ordered the Gentlemen who paraded about in groups with long white ribands in their button-holes, to abstain from menacing their more peaceable fellow-citizens, but the evil had almost ceased even before this intimation, for a number of persons, impatient of insult, were assembling with sinister bamboos and rattans in their hands, determined to repel outrage and chastise insolence. This attitude sufficed to tranquillize their youthful antagonists, but in revenge they tore a violet from the waistcoat of a Mr. Stirling, an English Gentleman, who could not imagine in what manner he had committed himself, and then crowned their exploits by a similar triumph over a married Lady of this country, who was walking with her husband and children in the *allee des Orangers* of the Thuilleries. Many of the National Guard appeared likewise in these gardens with their sabres and accoutrements, but it seems this description of persons, like the mightier beasts in the fable, were not judged guilty or deserving of punishment. I must be permitted to add, that certain Englishmen well prepared to resist aggression, were seen on the Boulevards with bunches of violet, but were left unmolested.—A ridiculous order is not the way to bring us back to notions of true religion. That of the Vicars General against the edition of Voltaire, has multiplied the examples of these little speculations. All the French Classics are about to appear in the same way, and the Provincials will have their turn. This is what has been gained by the mandate!—*Courier.*

Paris Journals and Private Letters to the 3d arrived yesterday morning. A Letter of the 2d mentions two more duels. In one, the nephew of BONAPARTE's Physician has fallen, and in the other a Half-pay Colonel from Provence has been wounded in the groin. Quarrels between the Royalist and Half-pay Officers continue; and with those who wear flowers emblematical of BONAPARTE. The disturbances at Versailles are said to have arisen from some Officers of the Guard making a party against an Actress, and some persons of the town taking her part, in consequence of which the Theatre was closed, and some Officers suspended from service.

The Ex-Empress MARIA LOUISA lives in a style of great splendour at Parma, but without ostentation. With the Noblesse of the country she has little society. Her Court is composed principally of Germans. The inferior servants are chiefly French, and nearly the same who served her when on the throne of France. The Count M'AULY is her Minister of State, a young man, Irish by birth, who is possessed of considerable property in Ireland, where his family have resided for a long period.

Madame MURAT, whose marriage with the Neapolitan General M'DONALD is still announced, has just purchased the beautiful estate of Kottingbroon, near Baden.

HORRIBLE EXPLOSION OF A STEAM PACKET.—Friday morning, about 20 passengers had taken their places on board the Steam Packet from Norwich to Yarmouth; just as they were pushing from the moorings, the whole blew up; eight were killed, seven almost every limb broken; the whole were thrown in different directions, and to a considerable distance.—Of the seven taken to the Hospital, there is not the least chance of two living.

Mr. STUART, who is just elected one of the Representatives in Parliament for Bridport, is a young gentleman of great promise, and very friendly to his Majesty's Government. Mr. HUNT in his canvass obtained two promises; but no one appeared to put him in nomination. However, he repeated his Spa-fields harangue, which a friend of his, it is said, is setting to music.—*Courier.*

"Government *(says the Courier)* have at last adopted a measure, which will at once put an end to the *noxious* publications," (not all, we fear) "that have too long been permitted to poison the hearts of the weak and the thoughtless. From the following circular we anticipate the most salutary consequences:—

Whitehall, March 27, 1817.

MY LORD,—As it is of the greatest importance to prevent, as far as possible, the circulation of Blasphemous and Seditious Pamphlets and Writings, of which, for a considerable time past, great numbers have been sold and distributed throughout the country, I have thought it my duty to consult the Law Officers of the Crown, whether an individual found selling, or in any way publishing such Pamphlets or Writings, might be brought immediately before a Justice of the Peace, under a warrant issued for the purpose, to answer for his conduct. The Law Officers having accordingly taken this matter into their consideration, have notified to me their opinion, That a Justice of the Peace may issue a warrant to apprehend a person charged before him upon oath with the publication of Libels of the nature in question, and compel him to give bail to answer the charge. Under these circumstances, I beg leave to call your Lordship's attention very particularly to this subject; and I have to request, that if your Lordship should not propose to attend in person at the next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, to be holden in and for the county under your Lordship's charge, you would make known to the Chairman of such Sessions the substance of this communication, in order that he may recommend to the several Magistrates, to act thereupon in all cases where any person should be found offending against the law in the manner abovementioned. I beg leave to add, that persons vending Pamphlets or other Publications, in the manner alluded to, should be considered as coming under the provisions of the Hawker's and Pedlar's Act, and dealt with accordingly, unless they shew that they are furnished with a License, as required by the said Act.

I am, Sir, &c. SIDMOUTH.

To his Majesty's Lieutenant of the County of Chester.

"We are all confusion here (Manchester, Saturday the 29th) to-day, in consequence of a most diabolical plot having been discovered, which was intended to have done nothing less than to have destroyed all the factories, by throwing into them hand-grenades, and also the Banks and Public Offices: their next intention was to murder the Magistrates and Constables, and release all the prisoners in the New Bailey; and while the troops were engaged in assisting at the fires, they were to destroy the barracks also. In consequence of these most daring plots, there is no business doing here to-day. Summonses were sent to all the Masters of Factories, at a very late hour last evening, to meet the Magistrates, who were sitting all night: strong armed guards are placed at every Factory, and all the Constables are ordered to be on the patrol this evening. Troops are coming in from all quarters, and prisoners from different villages round the town are arriving."—*Courier.*

"You will rejoice (says a letter from Manchester, dated March 31) to hear that *Knight*, one of the most disaffected leaders, and one who escaped the pursuits of the officers who endeavoured to seize him, under a Secretary's warrant, a fortnight ago, is taken; he was found skulking near Halifax, and has been brought to Manchester. I wish that I could speak favourably of our trade: it has found a new cause of depression in these dreadful disclosures, and our Exchange is converted *pro tempore* into a Coffee-house, for the discussion of the political topics of the day. Twist has been selling very heavily for some time past; calicoes are not in good demand; and cotton continues at a high price."—*Courier.*

John Keith, manager of a cotton-mill, Glasgow, and *Thomas Sinclair*, weaver, Govan, were lodged in the Castle on Sunday, as was *Robert Kerr*, manufacturer, St. Andrew's-square, Glasgow, on Tuesday night. The latter was taken in bed on Tuesday morning. Monday, *William Edgar*, schoolmaster, Calton, Glasgow, and *John Keith*, manager of a cotton-mill, prisoners in the Castle, were served with an indictment to stand trial, before the High Court of Justiciary, on the 9th of April, for administering unlawful oaths.—*Edinburgh Courant.*

MR. COBBETT.

Mr. Cobbett has really fled to the United States. He sailed on Thursday week from Liverpool with his two sons. The following is a correct copy of his Farewell Address:—

TO THE PUBLIC.

Liverpool, March 26, 1817.

My departure for America will surprise nobody, but those who do not reflect. A full and explicit statement of my reasons will appear in a few days, probably on the 5th of April. In the mean while, I think it necessary for me to make known, that I have fully empowered a person of respectability to manage and settle all my affairs in England. I owe my countrymen most sincere regard, which I shall always entertain for them in a higher degree than towards any other people upon earth: I carry nothing from my country but my wife and children, and, surely, they are my own at any rate. I shall always love England better than any other country; I will never become a subject or citizen of any other State; but I and mine were not born under a Government having the absolute power to imprison us at its pleasure; and, if we can avoid it, we will neither live nor die under such an order of things. If I have not taken leave of numerous friends in London and in the country, it was because I should have been made unhappy by their importunities and the expressions of their sorrow. I make an enormous sacrifice of property and of feeling; but, when my heart feels the tugs of friendship, and of all the interesting objects in Hampshire, it is reconciled to the loss, by the thought that I can enjoy them only during the pleasure of a Secretary of State. When this order of things shall cease to exist, then I shall again see England. W. COBBETT.

The following passages are taken from Mr. Cobbett's Pamphlet, published yesterday:—The article is headed "Mr. Cobbett's taking Leave of his Countrymen;" but

in the whole of it there is not a word respecting Stamp Duties or Prosecutions for Libel:—

"My Beloved Countrymen.—Soon after this reaches your eyes, those of the writer will possibly have taken the last glimpse of the land that gave him birth, the land in which his parents lie buried, the land of which he has always been so proud, the land in which he leaves a people, whom he shall to his last breath love and esteem beyond all the rest of mankind.

"Every one, if he can do it without wrong to another, has a right to pursue the path to his own happiness; as my happiness, however, has long been inseparable from the hope of assisting in restoring the rights and liberties of my country, nothing could have induced me to quit that country, while there remained the smallest chance of my being able, by remaining, to continue to aid her cause. No such chance is now left. The laws, which have just been passed, especially if we take into view the real objects of those laws, forbid us to entertain the idea, that it would be possible to write on political subjects according to the dictates of truth and reason, without drawing down upon our heads certain and swift destruction. It was well observed by Mr. Brougham, in a late debate, that every writer, who opposes the present measures, "must now feel, that he sits down to write with *a halter about his neck*;" an observation the justice of which must be obvious to all the world.

"Leaving, therefore, all considerations of personal interest, personal feeling, and personal safety; leaving even the peace of mind of a numerous and most affectionate family wholly out of view, I have reasoned thus with myself:—What is now left to be done? We have urged our claims with so much truth; we have established them so clearly, on the ground of both law and reason, that there is no answer to us to be found other than that of a Suspension of our Personal Safety. If I still write in support of those claims, I must be blind not to see that a dungeon is my doom. If I write at all, and do not write in support of those claims, I not only degrade myself, but I do a great injury to the rights of the nation by appearing to abandon them. If I remain here, I must therefore *cease to write*, either from compulsion or from a sense of duty to my countrymen; therefore, it is *impossible* to do any good to the cause of my country by remaining in it; but, if I remove to a country where I can write with perfect freedom, it is not only *possible*, but very *probable*, that I shall, sooner or latter, be able to render that cause important and lasting services.

"Upon this conclusion it is, that I have made my determination; for, though life would be scarcely worth preserving with the consciousness that I walked about my fields or slept in my bed merely at the mercy of a Secretary of State; though, under such circumstances, neither the song of the birds in spring nor the well-strawed homestead in winter could make me forget that I and my rising family were slaves, still there is something so powerful in the thought of country and neighbourhood and home and friends, there is something so strong in the numerous and united ties with which these and endless other objects fasten the mind to a long-inhabited spot, that to tear oneself away nearly approaches to the separating the soul from the body. But, then, on the other hand, when I asked myself: What! Shall I submit in silence? Shall I be as dumb as one of my horses? Shall that indignation which burns within me be quenched? Shall I make no effort to preserve even the *chance* of assisting to better the lot of my unhappy country? Shall that mind, which has communicated its light and warmth to millions of other minds, now be extinguished for ever; and shall those, who, with thousands of pens at their command, still saw the tide of opinion rolling more and more heavily against them, now be for ever secure from that pen, by the efforts of which they feared being overwhelmed! Shall truth never again be uttered!! Shall her voice never again be heard, even from a distant shore!'

"'Thus was the balance turned; and, my Countrymen, be you well assured, that, though I shall, if I live, be at a distance from you; though the ocean will roll between us, not all the barriers that nature as well as art can raise, shall be sufficient to prevent you from reading some part, at least, of what I write; and, notwithstanding all the wrongs of which I justly complain; notwithstanding all the indignation that I feel; notwithstanding all the provocations that I have received, or that I may receive, never shall there drop from my pen any thing, which, according to the *law of the land*, I might not safely write and publish in England. Those, who have felt themselves supported by power, have practised towards me foul play without measure; but, though I shall have the means of retaliation in my hands, never will I follow their base example." * * * * * * * *

"'The *sacrifice* I make would, under any other circumstances, be justly considered as enormous. The ceasing of a profit of *more than ten thousand pounds a-year* from my works; the loss of property of various sorts, left scattered about in all manner of ways; the leaving of numerous friends, and of local objects, created under my own hands, and affording me so many pleasing sensations. But, all this weighs nothing, when compared with the horrid idea of being *silenced*; of sneaking to my farm and *quietly* leaving Corruption to trample out the vitals of my country, while her infamous press was revelling in unexposed falsehoods and calumnies levelled against myself and my friends. Compared to this, no loss of fortune, no toils necessary to support a numerous family, no poverty, no bodily suffering: there is nothing of this kind that must not appear trifling, and even wholly unworthy of notice, when compared with the loss of that satisfaction which I shall now derive from still retaining the power of combatting corruption, and from the hope that I shall never cease to entertain, of returning to my beloved country in the day of the restoration of her freedom.

"Every species of falsehood, deception, imposture, will Corruption now resort to, in order to blacken my character, to disfigure my motives, and to diminish the effect of my writings. But, my Countrymen, if you have witnessed so much of all these while I was *present*, I need not fear that you will believe in them when I am *absent*. In more than ten publications, the writers have taken *my name, and made me the author!* They will now play off this trick more than ever. But the *matter* of their publications will soon undeceive you.—Nothing will be sent by me but "*Cobbett's Weekly Political Pamphlet*," and nothing will be of my writing, which will not have at the foot of it the name of the same gentleman whose name will appear as the publisher of this Address. However, I am not much afraid of your being imposed upon in this way; for, amidst the crowd of writers, I hope you now will as easily distinguish my voice as a lamb does that of its mother, though there be hundreds of others bleating at the same moment.

"A mutual affection, a powerful impulse, equal to that out of which this wonderful sagacity arises, will, I hope, always exist between me and my hard-used countrymen; an affection which, my heart assures me, no time, no distance, no new connections, no new association of ideas, however enchanting, can ever destroy, or in any degree enfeeble or impair. The sight of a free, happy, well fed and well clad people will only tend to invigorate my efforts to assist in restoring you to the enjoyment of those rights and of that happiness, which are so well merited by your honesty, your sincerity, your skill in all the useful arts, your kind-heartedness, your valour, and all the virtues which you possess in so super-eminent a degree. A splendid mansion in America will be an object less dear to me than a cottage on the skirts of Waltham Chace or of Botley Common. Never will I own as my friend him who is not a friend to the people

of England. I will never become a *Subject* or a *Citizen* in any other state, and will always be a *foreigner* in every country but England. Any foible that may belong to your character I shall always willingly allow to belong to my own. All the celebrity which my writings have obtained, and which they will preserve, long and long after Lords Liverpool and Sidmouth and Castlereagh are rotten and forgotten, I owe less to my own talents than to that discernment and that noble spirit in you, which have at once instructed my mind and warmed my heart: and, my beloved Countrymen, be you well assured, that the last beatings of that heart will be, love for the people, for the happiness and the renown of England, and hatred of their corrupt, hypocritical, dastardly, and merciless foes.

"WM. COBBETT."

[In a Postscript, Mr. COBBETT says he shall return to England in a year or two.]

"It is quite certain, that Cobbett is prosecuted by the Stamp Office, on account of duties; and this was probably his chief motive for running away: his fears of the Habeas Corpus Suspension being a mere pretence. As soon as he first published his unstamped sheets, he had notice from the Stamp Office they were liable to duty; and he was called upon to make oath to the number he had printed. He denied the liability of his *Register*, and he published, as his readers must remember, some quibbling pretences on the subject. The Stamp Office thought it necessary to take the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown; which was decidedly against him. He then changed the description of his Paper from that of *Register* to that of *Pamphlet*, and again set up a pitiful argument to shew a pamphlet was not liable to the duty. He seems to have thought, that he could bully down the Commissioners of the Stamps, the Law Officers, and the Laws. The subject was again referred to the Law Officers, who gave an opinion as before. These proceedings occasioned considerable delay: but at last the Stamp Office prosecuted Cobbett, in the Exchequer, for the recovery of 18,000*l.* the penalties on selling Newspapers without a stamp; the Commissioners having taken care that as many should be purchased as by the penalties should cover the King's duties, which probably would not have been more than 12,000*l.* supposing 40,000 per week to have been published during six months. The Stamp Office has not been in the least degree remiss—it has lost no time—Cobbett is now prosecuted in the Exchequer—and by process he must have been arrested next Term. He could not have been arrested before. No warrant was out against him under the Suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, the passing of which he availed himself of as a plausible pretence for running away. It is supposed he knew he was prosecuted for libels; but still his person must have been inviolate till the term.—It is reported, that his private affairs have long been much deranged by speculating in purchases of land and speculative farming; by grand plans for rearing pigs, producing Merino wool, &c. He was quite as unsuccessful as his friend Major Cartwright had been, as a farmer at Brothertoft, or a miller at Retford. These Gentlemen know better how to manage the State than to manage a farm-yard. *Cobbett's Register* had sunk very low two years ago; and he being in debt last summer 10 or 12,000*l.* had no chance of extricating himself but by some desperate event. He appears to have entertained hopes of a revolution last winter, in consequence of the slackness of work and the scarcity of provisions; and he laboured with all his malice to produce it. His violence had one good effect for him; he knew it sold his unstamped *Register*, the profits of which must have amounted to 4 or 5000*l.* With this sum and others he has borrowed (he owes 3000*l.*, it is said, to Sir F. Burdett), it is supposed he made up a good warm purse for America, to which place it is known he has been two years preparing to fly. He has there had a printing and bookselling establishment during that time, where his *Registers* have been re-printed, with the libels he dared not publish here. A Morning Paper says—"Meetings of his creditors were held, both on Monday and Wednesday, at the house of Mr. White, Solicitor, in Essex-street, Strand. Botley is to be disposed of."—*Courier.*

ACTING PURSERS.

SIR,—An error appearing in the *Examiner* of last Sunday respecting the Petition presented to the House of Commons by Mr. Curwen, I beg leave to give you such information as will enable you to correct it; its present reading being very injurious, not only to myself, but likewise the few unfortunate individuals who are similarly situated, that is, dismissed after long servitude, without recompense.

The Acting Pursers are those Clerks in the Navy whose long servitude and good conduct on foreign stations induced their respective Captains to recommend them to the Admirals commanding abroad, for appointments to act as Pursers in such vacancies as occurred by death, invaliding, &c. This temporary promotion did not entitle them to any half-pay, unless confirmed by the Admiralty, though it frequently subjected them to expences in maintaining the appearance of officers; they were also compelled to give security for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them, in 400*l.* for a vessel of the lowest denomination: they have also an examination to pass, previous to their receiving an appointment. Several of them have served nine or ten years; I have served eleven, as Able Seaman, Midshipman, Clerk, and Purser, and been three times wounded in action, one of which wounds has entirely crippled me, the knee joint being shattered by a shot; and have also acted as Purser in three several ships, the Prometheus, Florida, and Terror; and yet cannot get confirmed by the Admiralty, though I have known several placed over my head, whose claims must be confessed much inferior—indeed some had never been to sea at the time they were made. Promotions such as these swelled the List of Pursers to a great size; it was easy to obtain a Purser's Warrant, to those whose friends had interest, particularly in the *borough way*; but it shut out those who have faithfully and diligently performed their duty on foreign stations, and who, at the termination of the war, if not sooner, expected to enjoy the half-pay (three shillings per day) allowed to Pursers. But while they were serving abroad, on the 23d July, 1814, an Order in Council was issued, "*forbidding the making any more Pursers, until the number on the List was reduced below the number of ships.*" The operation of this Order on the few who had been, and were indeed, some of them, at that time acting as Pursers, needs no comment; they are dismissed without any half-pay, or other remuneration for their services, while a handsome and liberal provision is made for the other Officers of the Navy. If economy was necessary, should not the same restriction have been extended to all classes alike? But Mr. Croker's assertion is really so miserable an excuse, after placing (as the Admiralty certainly have done) the Navy on so respectable a footing—it cannot easily be accounted for; or why the recompense and reward for their services, allowed by a grateful country, should be withheld from the few Acting Pursers, and a deaf ear turned to their memorials and humble entreaties, at a time, too, when they are unable to procure employ. These persons have been long used to the rank of Officers, and are now reduced to a state of deep distress unmerited; they cannot beg, and, as I have before said, every person knows the almost impossibility of procuring employ. Several Flag Officers, and others

of high rank in the Navy, are Members of Parliament, but not one appears to have taken up the subject. That this class is treated with severity and neglect, must be allowed; the reason why, is quite unknown to the sufferers themselves. J. W.

9, *Norton Falgate, March* 13, 1817.

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

For some days past there has been inserted in several of the Papers various pretended extracts of letters from Milan, Munich, and other places, respecting the Princess of Wales, and giving a most erroneous statement of an affair that happened some months ago in her Royal Highness's Family.—An Hanoverian Baron was observed to follow the Princess's route wherever she went. He was also received by her Royal Highness with the attentions due to his rank. On the Princess's return to Milan from her long voyage, the Baron was still there, and paid his respects to her Royal Highness as usual; but reports having come to the ears of her Household, that the Baron had made use of expressions in society highly injurious to her Royal Highness, one of the Gentlemen in her suite, an English Officer, sent the Baron a challenge; and this conveyed in terms too plain and unequivocal for misconstruction, as he accused him of "a most infamous and unmanly return for the kindness he had received from her Royal Highness;"—and called upon him to "meet him at eight o'clock the next morning at Bartassima (half-way between Milan and Como), there to answer for this serious charge against his honour as a Gentleman and a man, who had ever received the most marked hospitality at the hands of the Princess, and who has committed the greatest act of hostility against the very first of virtues:" (we copy the words as transmitted to us from Milan.) This challenge was delivered to the Baron by the hands of one Baron Cavalotti, a friend of the English Officer. The answer to this direct challenge was an attempt to explain away the charge imputed to him—but an acceptance of the challenge—claiming his right to the choice of weapons—and saying that he would fight in Switzerland, but that his intended second was absent;—in two days he would send him to settle the time and place.—Just at this period a discharged servant of her Royal Highness wrote a letter to the Chief Magistrate of Como, saying, that his conscience touched him, and that he was desirous of making a confession of the part he had acted in a treacherous confederacy with this Hanoverian, in whose pay he had been for the preceding ten months, to disclose to him every transaction of the Household, to procure false keys to her Royal Highness's apartments and drawers, &c. &c. This was made known to her Royal Highness. She treated all that he could have obtained by such insidious means with contempt—and actually took the footman who had thus acted as a spy on her actions, again into her service, on his imploring her pardon—but another accomplice was delivered over to the Police, to be tried and punished.—The very day after this discovery, her Royal Highness happened to give a great entertainment, at which the Governor of Milan and all the principal Nobility were present—when the Princess communicated the whole affair to the Governor. He expressed his indignation at the scandalous conduct, and having learnt that a challenge had passed from one of her Gentlemen to the Baron, said that certainly the person was unworthy to be treated as a Gentleman. The Hanoverian knew nothing of all this, but according to his promise sent Count Contenogh, one of the Chamberlains to the Austrian Emperor, to Como—who having met the British Officer, said he was not much acquainted with the Hanoverian who had requested him to be his second in an affair of honour—that he was anxious to have the matter fully investigated—and trusted, if the Baron should prove his innocence of the language imputed to him, that the British Officer would be satisfied he had acted hastily, &c. But in case he was not satisfied, he was further instructed to say, that the Baron wished the meeting to be in Germany, on the confines of France, instead of Switzerland, and that the time could not be convenient to him sooner than three weeks, a month, or more, from that time—as he had to go to Hanover to settle his affairs in the interim. The Englishman then related to Count Cantenogh the disclosures that had been made the day before, and submitted to him whether such behaviour did not render his principal unworthy the support of a man of honour, or to be met as a Gentleman. The Count declared that he could not be the second of such a person—that he must justify himself from this infamous charge, or chuse another friend. With this the Count returned to Milan—and a message was soon after delivered to her Royal Highness, from the Governor, to say that the Hanoverian Baron had received orders to quit the Austrian dominions, which he accordingly had done.—This curious affair made a considerable noise at the time, which was the beginning of November last, and this we suppose is the foundation of the stories which have lately been circulated and misrepresented.—*Morning Chronicle.*

FINE ARTS.

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

Excepting two performances, the Sculpture here is in too good a style not to wish that there was more of it. Did our limits permit, we would not let Mr. Chenu's Relievo of *Bacchus and Ariadne*, Mr. Scoular's *Silvia at the Fountain*, Mr. Cundy's *Eve supplicating Adam*, Mr. Hinchcliff's *Combat between Menelaus and Paris*, and above all, Mr. Bailey's *Achilles contending with Scamander*, be only briefly noticed: we would "give them honour due." Connecting the fine talents displayed even in these few sculptures, with those with which our yearly exhibitions have been enriched by Flaxman, Chantry, Nollekens, &c. and connecting them also with the rich taste which shines forth at present in the sister art of poetry, and in that which has struck on the best chords of the heart and imagination, in a long vibration of ages, from the divine hands of Chaucer, Spenser, Shakspeare, and Milton, how great do the capabilities of English genius appear, how rich, how exalted the taste.

In Mr. Chenu's Relievo, the objects are formed and arranged with the skill of one, whose eye has been fed with Grecian composition. There is a joyfulness, an ebullition of spirits, in the look and actions of the young *Bacchus and Ariadne*, as they hold up their cups, that tell well of their specific character.—Mr. Scoular's *Silvia* is a beauty which has been modelled in an imagination, nourished also by the general graces, though not refinements, of Grecian Art. She presents much of that gentle curverture of line so enchanting in Grecian sculptures. Mr. Scoular's, as well as Mr. Chenu's taste, therefore, are evidently elegant, but not original.

Mr. Cundy's *Eve supplicating Adam* touches the feelings; but the force and grace of the figures are impaired by forms too remote from select nature, especially the Adam, and particularly for those two progenitors of man who were but recently formed by the Divine modeller:—

"Two of far nobler shape, with native honour clad."

The features of Adam are preposterously large. The phrase, "swelling with anger" are here in them literally expressed.—*The Combat between Menelaus and Paris* has the praise of exciting feelings by no means remote from those which are felt on reading the grand poet who gave the subject. The Passions evidently sit before the Artist, at his bidding, to be painted, and Anatomy and sculptural taste and study attend with them.—Mr. Bailey's

Achilles contending with Scamander is, in its beautiful grouping, vehement action, and fine proportions, an unusual treat to the judicious and feeling spectator. Let but Mr. BAILEY feed his fine talent mainly with the "delicacies that are bred" in the Sculptures of PHIDIAS, now, thank Heaven, to be tasted by us all in the British Museum, and couple this practice by deriving nourishment also at the great, first hand of Nature herself,—let him but do this assiduously, and we shall not despair of coming pretty close at least to a settlement of the question, whether the priority of Art is for ever to rest with the Greeks.

The spirit of tasteful, honorary award, has been active this year in the British Institution Directory. To the 300 guineas, as given to Messrs. JACKSON and MARTIN, it has added 50 guineas to Mr. BONE for his judicious colouring of the *Female at the Bath*, and 30 guineas to Mr. STARK for his increased powers in Landscape.

(Various newly published Engravings shall be noticed next week.)

R. H.

We are glad to find that there was a handsome Contribution at the Anniversary of the Artists' General Benevolent Institution. The Duke of SUSSEX presided, with Mr. WEST on his right, and Mr. W. SMITH on his left. Twenty-one guineas each were subscribed by the Dukes of KENT and SUSSEX, the Earls of EGREMONT and POMFRET, Messrs. WEST, NOLLEKENS, CHANTRY. SOANE, WYATT, and MATHEUX; eleven guineas by Mr. TURNER; ten guineas by the LORD MAYOR, Sir T. LAWRENCE, Mr. OWEN, Mr. MURRAY, &c. &c. with many other subscriptions.

THE PETITION OF DENNIS SULLIVAN.

TO THE HON. THE HOUSE OF COMMONS OF THE UNITED PARLIAMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND,

The humble Petition of DENNIS SULLIVAN, late a Seaman in his Majesty's Service, but now a Pauper in Mount-street Work-house, St. George's, Hanover-square, aged 29 years;

Most humbly sheweth,

That your Petitioner, with due respect and truth, begs leave to state, that he faithfully served on board his Majesty's ships the Topaze and Montague for nearly twelve years:

That, whilst performing his duty in the former ship on the mizen-top-gallant-yard, your Petitioner fell from thence, by means of the parrell being cast off by an other topman, which occasioned a severe contusion on his chest, and prevented him for a considerable time from attending to his duty:

That although your Petitioner was at length discharged from the sick list, he was never after able to perform his duty as he had hitherto done; but being young and still useful, and fond of the service, he was permitted by Capt. Lake to remain, having no other employment to gain a livelihood:

That, in January 1812, your Petitioner, with several other men, were employed in Portsmouth Dock-yard, in sorting the rigging of the Topaze, and whilst he was in the performance of his duty, a Boatswain, belonging to the Valiant, not only beat him severely with a rope, but also kicked him in the loins and other parts of his body, in a most cruel manner, for having, as he alledged, meddled with the rigging of his ship; but which was not the case, for several of his shipmates were present, and who saw the transaction, told him he was mistaken; and complaint having been made to Lieutenant Dunn, who was then in the yard, he caused some enquiry to be made, the result of which your Petitioner has never been able to ascertain, although the effects of the brutal usage were such as not only to render him incapable of visiting his friends in Ireland, having obtained a month's leave of absence for that purpose, but was compelled to apply for medical aid, and remained under the care of Doctors Bloxam and Battecook nearly six weeks:

That, in January 1814, your Petitioner, with others of his shipmates, volunteered and served at a battery, in South Beveland, for four months, in deep snow, the severity of which, together with the nature of the duty, brought on his old infirmities occasioned by his original hurts; and the effects of the fall and beating before mentioned were such, that your Petitioner became so ill and weak as to be obliged to be carried on board the Montague, where he remained a long time on the sick list, and was at length discharged from the service:

That at the time of such discharge, your Petitioner was in such an ill state of health, that, on his arrival at Brighton from Portsmouth, he was incapable of walking, occasioned by the shaking of the coach, and was again obliged to seek for medical assistance from Dr. Gibney, who, from compassion to your Petitioner, attended and furnished him with medicine, until finding his efforts to cure ineffectual, advised him to apply to the Sick and Hurt Board:

That your Petitioner did so apply, and was directed to write to Dr. Cather, at Omagh, in Ireland, to certify to the above facts relative to the fall; which he did, and an answer was received from the Doctor confirming the whole of your Petitioner's account; but it being upwards of five years, from the day of the fall until the date of the Doctor's Letter, your Petitioner was informed at the Office that nothing could be done for him, as a Smart Ticket was omitted to be given within the limited time, which he, like thousands of young men in the service, was ignorant of:

That your Petitioner was admitted first into St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and afterwards, by the direction of the Sick and Hurt Board, into St. Thomas's Hospital; but was discharged from both incurable, after remaining in the first eleven and the latter nine weeks:

That your Petitioner, when able, was always ready and amongst the foremost to offer for any duty that the good of the service required: all which is well known to and has been certified by many of his Captains and the Officers with whom he served during such a long period:

That your Petitioner has more than once presented his respectful Petition and Documents to the Admiralty, but has not been able to obtain any redress; on the contrary, he has received much strange language from Mr. Dyer, and ill usage from the Porters in attendance:

And your Petitioner most humbly begs leave to state, that he has been defrauded, in the most shameful manner, of his prize-money, by Mr. John Daly, of Deptford, and Mr. Lazarus Franklin, of Portsea, licenced Navy Agents;—the clearest and undeniable proofs of which your Petitioner has laid before the Treasurer of the Navy in five long letters, but without redress; copies of which, and the Treasurer's answers, your Petitioner is ready to produce to your Honourable House:

Your Petitioner therefore most humble prays your Honourable House will be pleased to take his case into your humane consideration, and hopes and confidently trusts, that, notwithstanding the omission of a Smart Ticket being given, which omission, he humbly submits, is fully supplied by the Certificate of the Doctor, confirming his case, and which, if given at the time, would have entitled him to a Pension; and hopes such relief will be granted him as your Honourable House shall deem meet: and your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray. DENNIS SULLIVAN.

POLICE.

BOW-STREET.

In consequence of warrants issued from Lord Sidmouth's Office, and dispatched by King's Messengers to Manchester, several of the Conspirators were on Monday brought to town. *Dr. Joseph Heiley* was apprehended at Middleton, about six miles from Manchester, while in the act of visiting his patients. *Samuel Banford* was apprehended in the same neighbourhood. This man was in London in the month of December last, and attended at the Meeting of Delegates, in New Palace-yard, where he disputed with Cobbett upon the question of universal suffrage. He is a young man, 26 years of age, of considerable abilities, writes poetry very fluently, and speaks it extempore. He has written lines on the battle of Waterloo, which are spoken by Dr. Heiley with much effect. They were conveyed to Manchester and properly secured. The whole of the Traveller coach was engaged for Sunday, and eight of those apprehended were brought off by it for London, on Sunday morning, at six o'clock, all double ironed, in the custody of two of the King's Messengers, and the Police-officers of Manchester. They arrived on Monday at this Office, where their irons were knocked off, and they were ordered to be kept quite separate, and Officers appointed to guard them, and prevent their having any communication with each other. Their names we understand to be *James Sellers, John Roberts, Robert Kedsings, Samuel Banford, John Lan-*

cashire, Dr. Joseph Heiley, Edward Connor, and *Nathaniel Thulton.* They are all of the lower orders, and extremely poor. John Lancashire can neither read nor write. It appears, that every stranger who entered that town was so closely observed, and his movements so instantaneously communicated from one conspirator to another, by means of private signals, that his business was sure to be ascertained in a very short time. When the King's Messengers went down with the special warrants, they were so narrowly watched, that their object was speedily discovered. In fact, the combination felt itself so powerful, and showed, without much reserve, such a spirit of determined violence, that the Magistrates thought it the wisest plan to come forward at once with a declaration of their knowledge of the intended mischief. This declaration, together with the imposing appearance of a formidable body of military, horse and foot, spread dismay among the conspirators, and many of them absconded: some, however, more bold than the rest, attempted to hold a meeting in the open air; and being dispersed, the deputies adjourned to different public-houses—from which being dislodged, they changed their quarters three different times. Notwithstanding, however, all their cunning and activity, they were so diligently pursued by the Police as well as the Government Messengers, that their places of resort were discovered, and the different arrests were made to which we have before alluded. This energy on the part of the Magistrates checked the riot in its very inception; for the conspirators, not being suffered to meet in any numbers, felt all their efforts paralized. Saturday was employed in endeavouring to discover some of the more desperate conspirators, against whom warrants for high treason had been issued, and who were deepest in the plot for destroying Manchester, and murdering some of its inhabitants. These wretches, however, had been awed, no doubt, by the arrangements of the Civil Power, and by the demonstration of military force, and kept out of the way. Some persons, however, were taken, and among others, those whose names are given above. Of these, Heiley, it appears, is an apothecary, and was in the act of visiting his patients at Middleton, a place about six miles distant from Manchester, when he was arrested.—*Courier.*

The prisoners were on Tuesday removed in four hackney coaches, guarded by the King's Messengers and Police Officers, to the Secretary of State's Office for the Home Department, where they underwent examinations before the Noble Secretary, the Lord Chancellor, the Law Officers, Sir Nathaniel Conant, and others of the Police Magistrates. At half-past four o'clock they were sent back to Bow-street.

Captain Turner was charged with attempting to violate the person of a servant girl, the particulars of which are too indelicate for description.—He was ordered to find bail.

HATTON-GARDEN.

On Thursday evening, *N. Stratton*, Beadle of Islington Parish, 70 years of age, was charged by Ann Davis, a married woman, with taking indecent liberties with her. She stated, that the prisoner accompanied her, a few days ago, in a hackney-coach to Worship-street, on parish business. On their way the prisoner began to take very indecent liberties with her. The charge being sworn to, the prisoner was ordered to find bail, to answer the assault at the next Sessions.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

A woman, between 60 and 70 years of age, on Tuesday precipitated herself under one of the bridges of the River Fleet, at Battle-bridge; but a girl, who saw the act, brought assistance, when the poor creature was with difficulty rescued from death. *Poverty*, it seems, prompted the act.

A few days since, an inquest was taken on a body found in a small wood or coppice near St. Ives, with a hat lying on its face, as if in a somnolent state, with its arms orderly folded across, forming a pillow for its head; but which, on a closer inspection, presented the most offensive and horrific spectacle imaginable. An empty, emboweled trunk, a skull bare, bleached, and disevered from the neck, hands from the arms, arms from the shoulders, legs from the thighs—all having, from exposure to a summer's heat, a winter's cold, and the ravages of rapacious insects, animals, and birds, melted down and rotted asunder, leaving no traces of the once pleasing anxious being which animated them all. Neither were there letters, papers, or property of any kind (saving a silver hunting watch, and two razors, cased), found upon the body; but by the initials "C. B." on a pocket handkerchief, and stocking-top, and the aid of one witness, it was soon identified, and proved to be that of the late Charles Blake, aged 26, and recently the unfortunate occupant of a farm near Peterborough, from whence the pressure of the present times precipitately drove him about 18 months since, to an obscure lodging at Huntingdon, which he wandered from early one morning in the month of May last, telling his host, with apparent cheerfulness, "That if he returned not to dinner, not to expect him until seen." Returning, however, no more, it was supposed he had fled to America, being never more seen or heard of until the sad day above mentioned, which discovered his remains on a well-known spot, part of an estate once fondly occupied by himself or family, and on the identical spot where a father had some years past similarly perished; and also a spot close to the residence of a beloved object, compelled on the very eve of a marriage to discard him; and a spot, where, alas! being obviously broken in fortune, bereft of all friends, and "crossed in hopeless love," it is most reasonably presumed, that, in the absence of all hope, and in a paroxysm of despair, he destroyed himself by laudanum, a small phial of which was found lying by his side.

On Friday week an inquest was held at Worthing, upon the body of *Mr. G. Wood*, of Broad-street-buildings, London, which was discovered lying upon the top of the beach, nearly opposite the Sea House Hotel—when the Jury, after examining the body, and receiving the opinion of Mr. Morrah, a Surgeon of the place, returned an unanimous verdict, that the deceased came by his death in consequence of apoplexy.

On Thursday week, an inquest was held at Hoxton, on the body of *Mrs. Hopkins.* Mr. E. Clarke stated, that on Monday night he was requested by the Rev. Mr. Wilson, the occupier of the house where the deceased lodged, to accompany him to her room. They knocked at the door, but received no answer, when witness forced open the door. The deceased was lying upon her back, on a mattrass upon the floor, quite dead; her arms and toes were gnawed by the rats. There was plenty of victuals in the room; one bottle with rum in it, and another with gin was standing by her. Verdict—Died by the Visitation of God.

Wednesday week, an inquest was held upon the body of *Mr. J. Hall*, foreman to Mr. Wyatt, the builder, who died in consequence of having thrown himself down the area in Somerset-House. Verdict—That the deceased was in a temporary state of derangement at the time he threw himself into the area, by which circumstance his death was occasioned.

Monday week, *Captain Lightfoot*, of County-place, Kent-road, shot himself through the head with a pistol-bullet.

BIRTHS.

Lady Elizabeth Stuart, wife of the English Ambassador at Paris, was on Tuesday safely delivered of a daughter, at that city.

On Saturday, the 15th ult. Cottage, Kent-road, Mrs. Edward Jayer, of a son.

On the 30th ult. at Lambeth, Mrs. Cole, of Wolsingham-place, of a daughter, her sixth child.

On Monday last, in George-street, Southampton-place, Mrs. John Burke, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On Saturday, the 29th ult., at Lambeth Church, by the Rev. Dr. Wordsworth, Rector of Lambeth, William Sowerby, Esq. of Devonshire-buildings, Bath, to Ann, third daughter of the late Mr. Samuel Leigh, of Lambeth.

March 31, the Rev. W. Jephson, Master of the Grammar School, at Camberwell, to Miss Ann Armroid, of that place.

On Monday last, at St. Anne's, Soho, Colonel Cunyngham, of Malshanger, in the county of Hants, to Gertrude Henrietta, eldest daughter of W. Kinpton, Esq. of Brompton.

DEATHS.

March 31, suddenly, by the bursting of a blood-vessel, Dennis de Berdt, Esq. of Clapton, Middlesex.

March 31, in Cumberland-place, Lady Frances Douglas, wife of the Hon. John Douglas.

Lately, the President of Antigua, the Hon. R. Byam.—He is succeeded by the Hon. T. Norman Kerby.

On Tuesday last, at Paris, aged 71, the Duke of Laval de Montmorency, a Peer of France, and a Lieutenant-General in the King's Army.

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